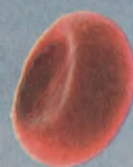




STUDENTS PRESENT ART AND
WRITING AT THOROUGHFARE
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT B3



A NEW BLOOD TYPE
MAY BE COURSEING
THROUGH YOUR VEINS
SCI & TECH B7

the johns hopkins News-Letter

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MARCH 8, 2012

IBM chair Palmisano to speak at graduation

By JACKIE HEATH
For *The News-Letter*

Samuel J. Palmisano, chairman of the board of IBM, will speak at graduation. According to Hopkins's Commencement website.

A Hopkins graduate himself, Palmisano has worked at IBM for nearly 40 years, and served as president and CEO until January.

"He is a highly accomplished graduate of Johns Hopkins and a 2012 commencement ceremony leader in his industry," University Spokesperson Dennis O'Shea said.

"He made IBM from the company that it was into the company that it is today... Whatever he chooses to speak about will be highly valuable to the class."

After graduating from Hopkins, Palmisano joined IBM as a salesman in 1973. He moved through the ranks at the company working on company strategy and later international business and developing industry. As CEO he brought financial stability and growth to IBM and worked to expand many of its now-crucial market initiatives.

In an article last December, *The New York Times* reported Palmisano to have been guided by four questions during his time leading IBM.

"Why would someone spend their money with you — so what is unique about you?"

"Why would somebody work for you?"

"Why would society

allow you to operate in their defined geography — their country?"

"And why would somebody invest their money with you?"

These principles helped Palmisano through a decade as CEO.

Palmisano is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and in 2005 he was awarded an Honorary Degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

He will speak at University-wide Commencement on May 24 on Homewood Field where degrees will be conferred upon the undergraduate and higher degree classes of 2012 by President Ron Daniels, Provost Lloyd Minor and others. Some speakers for divisional ceremonies are still yet to be announced.



COURTESY OF JHU.EDU
Palmisano will speak at the Class of 2012 commencement ceremony.



COURTESY OF VICTOR FINK
Dance Marathon participants raised \$10,000 for the Hopkins Children's Center last Saturday by staying on their feet for eight hours.

Dance Marathon raises 10K for children's center

By ASHLEY EMERY
News & Features Editor

Nearly 147 students tested their stamina by participating in the second annual eight-hour Dance Marathon for the Hopkins Children's Center. To fulfill the pledges and sponsorships that par-

ticipants obtained, they began dancing at 11 p.m. on Saturday, Mar. 3 and remained on their feet until 7 a.m. on Sunday, Mar. 4. Out of the 147 student dancers, approximately 60 lasted all eight hours. Participants raised \$10,000 in total.

Dance Marathon has

grown substantially from last year's fundraising total of \$4,510.57. This year's dancers surpassed the monetary goal of \$8,500 that Dance Marathon Co-Presidents, sophomore Alexandra Colt and junior Amanda Leininger, set for the event.

At 6:45 a.m. on March 4,

the total amount raised had been \$9,205.50, but President Ron Daniels pushed the total to \$10,000 with a generous donation. However, the donation period does not elapse until April 7, at which point the true

SEE MARATHON, PAGE A5

Pi Phi hosts T.A.K.E. self defense workshop

By LILY NEWMAN
Editor-in-Chief

Pi Beta Phi hosted a self-defense and safety education course for Hopkins women through a national affiliate organization on Saturday.

The Ali Kemp Educational Foundation (T.A.K.E.) Defense Training Program was created in 2002 by Roger and Kathy Kemp when their daughter, Alexandra Kemp was murdered at the age of 19 while working at a local pool in Johnson County, Kansas. The program was

piloted in 2004 with the Johnson County Park and Recreation District.

It consists of a two-hour program that includes training on how to prevent



COURTESY OF XIXI XU
Students learn self-defense skills at the T.A.K.E. workshop.

dangerous situations and how to respond to a physical attack.

In 2007, Pi Beta Phi, which was Kemp's sorority, Alpha Delta Phi and Sigma Phi Epsilon began bringing the T.A.K.E. program to college campuses across the U.S. Since then almost 40,000 women have received the free self-defense training on college campuses and in communities around the country.

"They taught a lot of simple self-defense moves and practices that women can use on a day to day

SEE T.A.K.E., PAGE A5



VIN NGUYEN/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
Organization members from across the U.S. offered different perspectives.

Occupy representatives discuss activism at FAS

By MARY-KATHERINE ATKINS
Copy Editor

The Foreign Affairs Symposium hosted a panel on Occupy Wall Street, featuring seven representatives from Occupy sites across the United States, this past Tuesday in Shriver Hall. The panelists discussed how individual communities across America have utilized grassroots activism to unite against social, economic and political inequality.

This symposium event was run in the style of a general assembly. A large audience of students and members of the Baltimore community filled the auditorium.

"We wanted to hold an event that would try to break with the standard, rigid and sometimes boring symposium format," Andrew Davis, Executive Director of the Foreign Affairs Symposium, wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I believe that this

SEE FAS, PAGE A5

Ben-Shahar speaks on stress, happiness at Hopkins

By NASH JENKINS
Senior Staff Writer

Billed as the country's preeminent "positive psychologist," Tal Ben-Shahar addressed a full auditorium in Shriver Hall on Tuesday as this year's G. Stanley Hall Lecturer in

Clinical Research.

He stressed that the topic of his lecture, happiness, was one particularly relevant to those in an academic pressure-cooker "like Hopkins."

"Stress is a pandemic, one that prevents us from being happy," he told the

crowd, consisting largely of Homewood undergraduates in the midst of the midterm exam period.

Ben-Shahar holds a doctorate in Organizational Behavior from Harvard; his dissertation probed the topic of human self-esteem. He remained in

Harvard after graduation to teach an undergraduate course on "positive psychology" — the academic pursuit of being happy — which grew from six students in its inaugural year to over 900 in its last, making it the

SEE POSITIVE, PAGE A5

INSIDE



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NEWS & FEATURES

Bunch talks about building national museum

By KATHERINE SIMEON
News & Features Editor

Historian Lonnie Bunch, Director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC), discussed the obstacles he faces as he tries to establish a museum that is memorable and "quintessentially American" this past Tuesday Hopkins's Program in Museum and Society and Center for Africana Studies collaborated to bring this event to Hopkins this past Tuesday.

"[The event] was so well attended and attracted a crowd from both within the university and from outside the university... Dr. Bunch's talk had that rare combination of rigorous scholarship and public appeal. It was both intellectually stimulating and moving, enlightening and deeply human. The event also marked a long awaited first for the Program in Museums and Society: the chance to collaborate with the Center for Africana Studies," Jennifer Kingsley, Administrator and Lecturer for the Program in Museums and Society, wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Bunch opened his lecture by narrating his visits to multiple plantations for an exhibition project. He visited a rice plantation outside of Georgetown, South Carolina, where there were 10 to 15 slave cabins.

Here, he met an old man, about 92 or 93 years old, named Mr. Johnson — Bunch does not remember his first name. Mr. Johnson took Bunch to each side of the cabin in which he lived. At the front, he told Bunch about how his family preserved the limited living

space they had, moving to the side, he talked about where the children did their chores. After, they went to the cabin's rear and Mr. Johnson told how his grandmother grew crops to supplement the rest of the harvest.

Bunch then made his way to the final side of the cabin.

"Mr. Johnson what happened over here?" Bunch said, narrating the story.

Mr. Johnson refused to go to the fourth side of the cabin. But Bunch persisted. He started to venture away from the cabin to explore the territory.

"So as a young scholar I thought I was going to discover something really important," Bunch said. "And he said 'I'm not going over there because there's nothing but rattle snakes.' I'm going to tell you that's when I stopped running."

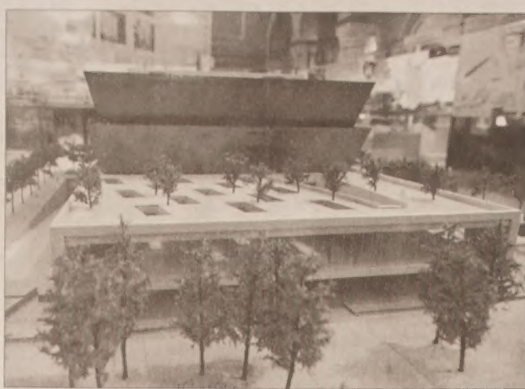
The crowd, sitting in Gilman 50, laughed.

Bunch recalled that he asked Mr. Johnson why he did not tell him about the rattle snakes earlier.

"People used to remember now all they do is forget," Mr. Johnson said to him.

"Then he told me something that has shaped my entire career," Bunch said. "I'm not sure what a historian is but your job ought to be to help people remember not just what they want but what they need."

Bunch's talk took off from there. His presentation was one of laughs and seriousness. He described the 100 year struggle that has finally yielded an African American presence at the National Mall, as well as the growth of the staff. Beginning with two staffers, it has increased to nearly 100.



COURTESY OF SLEDU

The museum's design intends to showcase its neighboring scenery.

The plan of building museum at the mall specifically focused on African American history and culture has been in the works since 1913, according to Bunch. The idea was contested by politicians and legislation. However, in 2003, there was bi-partisan support to pass legislation enabling the creation of a museum for African American culture in DC.

"It also had 50 years of brilliant academic scholarship," Bunch said, when discussing for reasons for the legislation's success. "The Smithsonian is a place where scholarship is the engine and in order to get the excitement of the Smithsonian, there needed to be that sense that there was that scholarship on African American culture."

In July 2005, Bunch was appointed as the Director of the NMAAHC.

He outlined the goals he seeks to have NMAAHC accomplish for its audience, visitors and Americans. "The desire of the museum was to craft a place that would allow the public to wrestle and revel in African American culture from a deep insider's perspective. In essence, this mu-

seum has to be a place that helps America confront its tortured racial past," Bunch said.

Bunch continued to talk about how the NMAAHC's mission is not only to attract visitors to explore African American History, but also to spark curiosity in its audience. He wants to create lasting intellectual interest that will compel tourists to visit their local museums in their hometown.

Additionally, Bunch addressed the possible overlaps between the NMAAHC and the National Museum of American History. He hopes that the NMAAHC will instigate interactions between all of the museums at the National Mall.

Bunch's views on his job are powerful and serious.

"I have to be honest, if the museum simply helps you remember, I'm not convinced it ought to be a national museum," Bunch said. "In some ways, the challenge of this museum is to recognize that what it has to do it has to position itself as not an African American museum for African Americans, but in essence a museum that is quintessentially American."

Students, faculty and non-affiliates filled the auditorium to listen to Bunch. Generally, the audience thought Bunch was engaging and insightful.

"Dr. Bunch spoke of many challenges, some expected — what it was like to accept the job of creating a museum from scratch, and some less so — the incredible degree of personal investment Americans all over the country have in this museum," Kingsley wrote. "The stakes are so much higher than I imagined before hearing his talk. What I took away from Bunch's talk in particular is his strong emphasis on the 'national' in [the NMAAHC]. As a museum devoted to African-American history and culture, the NMAAHC may appear at first glance to be what some have called an 'identity' museum, that is, a museum devoted to the self-presentation of one particular community...Bunch argues that the NMAAHC is an American museum that expresses American values and tells an American story, just does so through a particular lens, one of great significance for the U.S."

At the conclusion of the event, Bunch presented a virtual tour of how the museum will look when completed. The NMAAHC is slated to open in 2015.

CHAI educates through Israel Peace Week

By ASHLEY EMERY
News & Features Editor

Coalition of Hopkins Activists for Israel (CHAI)'s Israel Peace Week took place this week at Hopkins to campaign about the Israeli desire for peace. Hasbara Fellowships, StandWithUs, JerusalemOnlineUniversity and Hopkins Hillel, in addition to College Republicans, Foreign Affairs Symposium, Sigma Iota Rho and Students for Environmental Action (SEA) sponsored the week of events.

"Reaching a variety of students in the community, we hope that they have gained a glimpse into Israel through the lenses of quests for peace and incredible accomplishments despite adversity. We hope that the JHU community will continue to stand strong with Israel and recognize not only the obstacles it faces, but the great things it has accomplished, too," senior Ali Cohen, President of CHAI and Campus Coordinator for Hasbara Fellowships in the Greater Washington DC Region, wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

The Israel Advocacy Organization Hasbara Fellowships supports Israel Peace week, which is a nationwide movement spanning 75 college campuses in the United States and Canada. The week is officially held from Feb. 20 to Mar. 9 to emphasize Israel's dedication to achieve peace.

CHAI began Israel Peace Week on Feb. 28 with a Dinner Discussion with two Israelis that featured their perceptions of diversity and security within Israel.

Next, in collaboration with Sigma Iota Rho, the National Honors Society for International Studies, CHAI held a Lunch N Learn with Hasbara Fellowship's Managing Director, Alan Levine.

Hasbara Fellowships is a pro-Israel campus activism organization. The group has members in over 120 universities in North America. The organization allows students to travel to Israel and learn about the country and equip them with strategies for spreading their knowledge.

"As a Hasbara Fellow, I feel extremely prepared to go out there and have any discussion about Israel and the peace process. Israel Peace Week really focuses on one main message: Israel and Israelis want peace, they just need to have a legitimate partner for a sustainable peace. The education I received while I attended the Hasbara Fellowship is crucial in answering these tough questions on campus," freshman Arie Grunberg said.

Following this trend, Levine instructed the audience about current events in the Middle East and answered their questions on the issues.

"The events were intimate, allowing for meaningful discussion and personal attention to attendees. Our outreach campaign on the Breezeway reached a larger section of the community, which was effective in spreading positive messages about Israel," Cohen wrote.

Cohen helped to coordinate Israel Peace Week activities at George Washington University and University of Maryland-College Park.

Additionally, Israel Peace Week featured a lecture from Gregg Roman, Political Advisor to Danny Ayalon, Deputy Foreign Minister and Member of Knesset of the State of Israel. Roman is the Director of Development at the Global Research in International Affairs (GLORIA) Center at the Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya.

CHAI, Foreign Affairs Symposium, College Republicans and College Democrats co-sponsored the event, and it was brought to Homewood by the Hasbara Fellowships.

Roman spoke on the future of Israeli and Palestinian Statehood. He described the potential of peacemaking in Israel with the Palestinians and other Arab neighbors. He illustrated that peace would be attainable if Israel were to ally with a serious power by providing past examples of success through alliance. For example, Israel and Egypt cooperated to forge a peace treaty in 1979, just as Israel and Jordan did in 1994.

He also discussed the Iranian nuclear program.

CHAI partnered with Students for Environmental Action to screen the JerusalemOnlineUniversity produced and Hasbara Fellowships and StandWithUs sponsored film "Israel Inside" on Tuesday.

The film's narrator, Dr. Tal Ben Shahar, came to speak about the film, lending a unique perspective checked with personal anecdotes about Israel to the audience.

"Both speakers are experts in their respective fields, and were able to bring faces and voices of different aspects of Israel to our community at JHU, enhancing the accessibility and legitimacy of the Israel Peace Week program," Cohen wrote.

CHAI aims to educate and directly engage the Hopkins community aside from its events by passing out chocolate bars with wrapping featuring facts about Israel as well as informational pamphlets. Also, students were able to offer their responses to the prompt "Peace means..." in order to decorate a poster, to be hung in Hillel.

On Friday night, CHAI is co-hosting a Shabbat dinner with the Queer Bagel Society to address gay rights in Israel.

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CORRECTIONS

In the Mar. 13 issue, in the article titled "Club sport referee dies of heart attack," on A2, it was said that HERU arrived 15 minutes after being dispatched. This is incorrect. HERU arrived 4.5 minutes after being dispatched.

In that same issue, on B12, the men's lacrosse photo was inaccurately credited to Angie Pinilla. The photo was actually taken by Kelly Standart.

The News-Letter regrets these errors.

NEWS & FEATURES

Hand in Hand helps Baltimore juveniles get on the right track

By **ARIEL MULTAK**
For *The News-Letter*

Youth crime is a significant national issue. Annually, 200,000 youths are tried as adults in criminal courts. In September of 2009, Jessica Turrall, Baltimore native and recent alumnus of Hopkins, founded a non-profit organization to fight those numbers. Called Hand in Hand, the program works with Baltimore youth who have committed crimes and been tried as adults and aims to empower them through mentorship.

"We work with these individuals while they are detained and once they are released," Turrall said. "We work with them on a lot of planning things. We talk about what is going to change when they return home and what their goals are, and what their action plan is for getting things started."

Turrall explained that Hand in Hand mentors partner with incarcerated youths to assist them in planning and achieving life goals once they have finished their sentences. Sometimes this involves helping the individual return to high school or obtaining a GED.

"The goal is to empower youth so they no longer see crime or jail as an option, because they finally know that they are better than that," Turrall said.

Turrall was inspired to found Hand in Hand after volunteering for Notre Dame-AmeriCorps. She was given the task of analyzing the population of youth charged as adults and was surprised at what she found.

"I did not expect how many hundreds there were, and it really bothered me. They looked so young. They are so young. And there are so many of them; it's crazy," Turrall said.

Turrall was further astounded to discover that many of these individuals had not only served jail time for one crime but often two or three before the age of 18. She found that the reason many of these youths returned to a criminal lifestyle was rooted in the fact that they did not receive post-incarceration counseling.

"They would be in jail and no one would talk to them about what to do when they got home," Turrall said. "They would go back to their communities, where there were no resources and no connections. They would go back to what they were doing because they had no other option."

"The hardest thing is when you meet a young person who does not want to change right away," Turrall said. "It is difficult because you can see where [his] life is heading, but [he doesn't] want to change his ways."

Not only is there the risk for more jail time, Turrall remarked, but a criminal way of life has an increased risk of injury and death.

Turrall mentioned that that the unresponsive and negative attitudes of many of the youth makes it difficult for some Hand in Hand volunteers who are not experienced in interacting with such individuals.

"It's hard because we have to teach our kids to be respectful and grateful," Turrall said.

Hand in Hand has two locations, one in the Baltimore City Detention Center, and the other

Hand in Hand is founded in mental health, so my psychology background helps a lot.

—JESSICA TURRAL, FOUNDER OF HAND IN HAND

at 2505 N. Charles Street. Youth in the detention center can apply and interview in order to gain mentorship through the program. Turrall said that while the organization often works with parole agents to bring in youth, most of their partnerships are attained via word of mouth.

"As founder, I do everything from writing grants, to finding space, to running programs, to talking to youth, to looking for jobs [for Hand in Hand's partner's]," Turrall said. "Everything we do, I have a little part of. Every day I work with youth in some capacity."

While at Hopkins, Turrall majored in Psychology, which has proved invaluable to her non-profit work.

"Hand in Hand is founded in mental health, so my psychology background helps a lot because I know the basics of how to create behavior change," Turrall said. "When I am talking to kids about introducing new aspects of life. . . I understand such behavior change, and that new stimuli will create new behaviors."

Turrall said that her background was particularly helpful to Hand in Hand because many re-entry programs do not combine their mentorship with a mental health approach.

Turrall does not believe that a bachelors' degree in psychology provides enough experience to run a program like Hand in Hand, so she has plans to return to school to earn her doctorate in psychology.

She also has plans to establish another Hand in Hand site within the next five years, most likely in Washington D.C. or Virginia.

"I want to take Hand in Hand everywhere," Turrall said. "And once Hand

in Hand is in every urban city, I want to move forward to prevention."

Her ambitious plans involve a unique aspect of prevention in which mentored youth would later return to the program to mentor those currently in the position they had been in just a few years earlier.

"Many mentoring programs shun [applicants] who have criminal records or records of drug use. But if we want to reach youth 'at risk,' we need to bring them around people who have been where they are and succeeded."

Turrall said that the individuals Hand in Hand partners with strongly desire the ability to relate to their mentors. They need someone to truly understand where they are coming from. Hand in Hand's strategy is to provide mentees with a solid combination of mentors who are different from and similar to them.

Turrall attended Baltimore City Public Schools growing up and has always lived in this area.

"What connected me to my students is that I'm not too far removed from them," Turrall said. "My mother was the first in our family to get a degree, the first to introduce the idea of getting an education."

"I understand how one person can change a whole family," Turrall said. "I saw my mom be a strong woman and set milestones in our family. She has given me an inner strength and motivated me to push myself and not use excuses."

That mentality certainly marks her college years in addition to her pursuits beyond the Homewood Campus.

"When I was at Hopkins, I was in, like, everything," Turrall said. "That's the kind of person I am. I figure, why not be involved."

Turrall said that she is proud to be able to say that she was in the first class that had Baltimore Scholars, a Hopkins program that provides full tuition to Baltimore City Public High School students admitted to the university.

Additionally, Turrall was very involved in her sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha, volunteered with a mentoring program and served as a senior leadership consultant. Through her campus involvement, Turrall wished to promote an atmosphere in which Hopkins gives back to the Baltimore community.

Turrall pointed to a fair she started her senior year, called "Welcome to My City," as one of her favorite aspects of her Hopkins experience. The fair gave her an opportunity to bring to Hopkins an entirely new view of Baltimore.

"It was an original idea and it turned out beautifully," Turrall said.

"It was important to me to fight the stereotypes [attributed to] Baltimore Scholars," Turrall said. "People from Hopkins assume that Baltimore is like *The Wire*. And that [Baltimore Scholars] are charity cases and that they were admitted because of affirmative action. If a person is saying something because [he] is ignorant, you have to teach [him]."

"A lot of people liked the fair because it showed the positive aspects of Baltimore: clubs, restaurants, museums and non-profits," Turrall said. "People could see how they could get involved in Baltimore and outside of the Hopkins 'bubble.'"

Originally, Turrall thought she wanted to become a doctor, so she focused her undergraduate studies on behavioral biology. She also took Writing Seminars classes because she wanted to learn how to write and how to express herself. In the end, Turrall decided that she didn't want to be



COURTESY OF JESSICA TURRAL
Turrall studied at Hopkins as an undergrad, majoring in psychology.

a doctor and shifted her focus to psychology.

"I was interested in why people do the things they do," Turrall said. "Some of the things we do are crazy and I just wanted to know why."

Turrall's advice to undergraduates is to not overvalue the necessity of a plan for after Hopkins.

"It's okay if you don't have a plan," Turrall said. "Hopkins students are the best of the best, and they always try to plan, but that's not realistic. Sometimes our plans

don't work out, and I don't want people to see that as a failure."

"I never planned to start a non-profit and partner with youth or to go back to school," Turrall said.

"Follow your passion, and when you follow your passion, sometimes it doesn't come with a manual or a plan," Turrall said. "Find something that makes you become so focused that you can't imagine doing anything else. And if you fail, just start over again."

Second Ignite event hosted at Nolan's

By **JUSTIN LI**
News & Features Editor

The Digital Media Center (DMC), in collaboration with Nolan's on 33rd, hosted the second Ignite@JHU event at Nolan's last Thursday. It featured five minute, TED-like talks by Hopkins staff, professors and students.

"We want to know what student, staff and faculty are passionate about," Joan Freedman, Director of the DMC and primary organizer of Ignite, said. "It's also a great way to bring interesting new topics and perspectives into the public discussion."

Hosted by Frank Richardson, staff of Campus Safety and Security and a speaker at the inaugural Ignite@JHU event last November, the event featured topics ranging from philanthropic causes to personal stories.

Freshman Katrina Rios spoke about the Program for Animal Wellness & Safety (PAWS), an animal cruelty awareness group. During her talk, Rios explained the difficulty she had participating in existing animal cruelty awareness groups due to her young age and then how she founded PAWS to try to affect change.

"Regardless of age, [anyone] can definitely make a difference," Rios said.

Jennifer McDowell, a graduate student at the Hopkins School of Education, spoke about the need for renovations of Baltimore City school buildings. According to McDowell, Baltimore City school buildings are in need of \$7.8 billion in repairs. But in addition to maintenance repairs, McDowell argued that the buildings are in need of aesthetic improvements if there is to be hope of academic improvements.

"Make schools a place students want to be," McDowell said.

As with the inaugural event, attendees found the presentations to be very engaging.

"The presentations have been really interested and

have been keeping my attention," freshman Anna Belous said.

Belous heard of the event through one of her co-workers, Raychel Santos, who spoke about the Hopkins Community Garden at the event.

Joe McSharry, an employee of the Hopkins Department of Talent Management and Organization Development, heard about the event via Hopkins Today's Announcements but also knew Santos would be speaking.

"I like the informal feel of it," McSharry said.

While the audience consisted of a range of Hopkins students, faculty and non-affiliates, the number of attendees was roughly 35 people, a significant drop from the first event's attendance of 150, according to a previous *News-Letter* article.

A number of attendees, particularly those further from the stage, felt that Nolan's was a poor choice of venue.

"There's a lot of background noise so I haven't been able to hear what [speakers] have been saying," sophomore Matthew Delgrosso said.

According to Freedman, one of the reasons behind the choice of Nolan's was the partnership between the DMC and Nolan's.

"We initially had partnered with Nolan's for the first one in November and it made sense to have it at Nolan's again," Freedman said.

Freedman also recognized the large volume of people the event could reach if hosted at Nolan's.

"There's so many people who were coming into the space because they were coming in to eat and [then they] stuck around to listen," Freedman said.

However, Freedman has acknowledged the negative aspects of Nolan's and has sought alternative venues for future events.

"We'll definitely be looking for another space in the fall," she said.

One aspect of Nolan's

Freedman appreciates and hopes to find in their next choice of venue is an unintimidating atmosphere.

"The difference of doing a five minute presentation on the stage at Shriver versus the 12 inch rise at Nolan's is a whole different experience," Freedman said. "Keeping a small, intimate, unintimidating space would be a real priority."

So far, Ignite events have only been planned for one a semester. Currently, Freedman has been focusing her efforts in raising student interest in Ignite to transition it to a student run organization.

"I would love to work with a student committee who really wants to take over the event and make it their own," Freedman said. "I'd like to collaborate with either the Momentum group or another group on the medical group that is doing TED-type talks."

In addition to the DMC and Nolan's, Ignite received assistance from Michael Yassa, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology and Brain Sciences and Faculty-in-Residence for Charles Commons, and Jimmy Roche, a video specialist in the DMC. Yassa assisted in the advertising and hosting of the event and Roche supervised the video recording of the event and operation of slides for the speakers.

According to Freedman, no logistical changes have been made to the event. The only change has been the creation of a website for Ignite. Visitors can access videos of past Ignite events and submit speaking proposals. Currently, only a video of the last semesters Ignite event is available online. Freedman expects the videos for this past Ignite event to be available online within the next week.

Anyone interested in Ignite should visit either the Ignite@JHU website at ignite.jhu.edu or email Freedman directly at digitalmedia@jhu.edu.

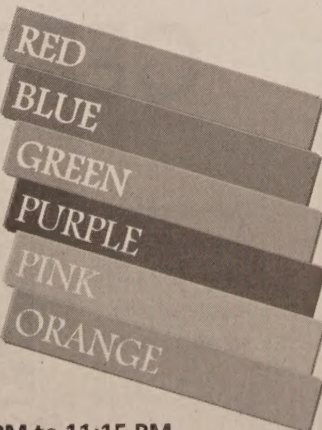
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NEWS & FEATURES

Covered grades: Average freshman GPA lowest among undergrads

By NASH JENKINS
Senior Staff Writer

The system of covered grades for first-semester freshmen has been a landmark Hopkins policy since the 1970s. Last June, it came under fire in a proposition by the Homewood Academic Council. In the last seven months, the fallout of the proposal has settled upon the undergraduate community, provoking discussion among students and administrators alike.

The Council's meeting on June 8 opened, according to the minutes available on the Council's website, with the approval of a proposal which motions to "eliminate the current covered grades policy for first-semester freshmen," effective July 14, 2014. If approved by President Ronald Daniels, freshmen entering in the Class of 2018 will be assessed on the normal grading scale.

The present policy only awards first semester freshman an S for Satisfactory (a C-minus or above), or a U for Unsatisfactory. Students do receive letter grades — available on ISIS — but official records do not show it.

The system has always been contentious; the decision of last June marks the culmination of almost a decade of on-again, off-again deliberation. Statistics provided by the Office of the Registrar offer insight into both sides of the debate, depicting an upwardly mobile performance between undergraduate classes.

The data show discrepancies between both classes and disciplines when comparing grade point average (GPA) and academic honors in the Fall 2011 semester. This indicates that students' academic performance gen-

erally improves the longer they are at Hopkins. Last semester, the average GPA of the Class of 2015 was 3.18; the Class of 2014 averaged a 3.31; the Class of 2013, a 3.34; the Class of 2012, a 3.43.

32 percent (414 students) of the freshman class qualified for Dean's List; 41 percent (500 students) of sophomores, 38 percent of juniors (495 students, excluding those who studied abroad), and 43 percent of seniors (526 students) also received a GPA of 3.5 or above.

These data, according to Homewood's Dean of Enrollment and Academic Services William Conley, show expected trends.

"It's not abnormal that the Class of 2015 has the lowest GPA, if even by a slight margin," Dean Conley, who provided the statistics, asserted.

He referred to the "inevitable learning curve" students encounter at the beginning of college, which is affected by academic, social and personal factors. The challenges of living independently, many argue, take a toll on study habits. Students, reinforced by humor sites like ThisIsHopkins and the Johns Hopkins Memes page on Facebook, often complain about grade deflation at Hopkins. Conley said he sees grade deflation as a standby excuse for poor performance, though, rather than a significant problem.

"If you're applying to medical school from here with a 3.2, it's the same as a 3.2 from Harvard or virtually anywhere else," he said. "The numbers show it."

He does recognize a "deflation" of sorts among the first semester GPAs of the Class of 2015, but one that is largely self-imposed: a direct consequence of the students' academic behavior.

"We see a lot of 'aspirational registration' — students are taking classes they might not otherwise, because there's little risk. I like to think that they're doing it to be intellectually stimulated," Conley said. "I also think that students aren't applying the study skills their first semester that they would otherwise."

Many current freshmen have explored tough classes under the covered grades system.

"I was able to try out classes I didn't think I'd do well in out of sheer curiosity, since there wasn't any risk," freshman Rachel Kalina said. "I took Arabic, even though I'm really bad at learning languages."

However, there hardly exists a consensus among Hopkins's academic administrators. Dr. Steven David, Vice-Dean for Undergraduate Education, supports covered grades. Conley, however, does not.

"I have responsibility for the integrity of the transcript, and the interpretation of the transcript," he explained. "If you and I are in the same year applying to the same medical school, and have GPAs so similar that an admissions decision between us comes down to the freshman fall grades, or the grade that one student decided to cover as an upperclassman, it leaves a lot to speculation."

He went on to cite other rallying points against covered grades: the fact that many freshman courses, especially in the natural and quantitative sciences, are sequential over the course of the year; the apparent invitation to snub work for a night of partying; and that the policy contracts what he

calls "the Hopkins Way," the idea that Hopkins students get recognition for doing great things.

"This is a place that seeks to recognize and reward those who do well . . . we don't have many underachievers to begin with here," he said. "Even though a first-semester freshman can make the Dean's List, it's hard to distinguish those who succeed from, well, everyone else."

The movement to abolish covered grades has brought one question to everyone's minds: do first-semester freshmen receive lower

grades because they know they will be covered, or because of the very factors that led to the creation of covered grades in the first place?

This debate has persisted since November, when The News-Letter first highlighted the Academic Council's June decision. Most discussion has proven informal, but the Student Government Association (SGA) has sought to establish a forum for deliberation that will ideally offer some structure.

"We are working in tandem with the administration to discuss to positives

and negatives of removing the covered grades policy and, if the University should choose to go forward with this decision, establishing supplementary policies to ensure a smooth transition into freshman year," Junior Class President Alexandra Larsen, Chair of the SGA Academic Affairs Committee, said.

However, some point out that disposing of the policy may also wipe out an essential alluring trait for prospective students.

"Hey, it's why I came here," freshman Spencer Perl said.

OMA speaker series features Boggs

By CHRISTINA SOCIAS
For The News-Letter

Paula Boggs, a 1981 Hopkins graduate and current executive president, general counsel and secretary of Starbucks Coffee, spoke at Hopkins this past Monday as a part of the Women's History Month speaker series, hosted by the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA).

Her talk was an informal yet intimate conversation about her undergrad years here at Hopkins as an African American woman and about her path to becoming a Fortune 500 executive. Her time at Hopkins was extremely different from that of today's student, as she enrolled at Hopkins in 1977 as an international studies major, she was one of the only female African American students on campus. Just seven years earlier in 1970, Hopkins had opened its doors to women.

She began with detailed accounts of her most memorable Hopkins experiences, which most Hopkins students can relate to. She brought up memories of freshman orientation, taking Introduction to Microeconomics class and ROTC.

Boggs first began by reminiscing over freshman orientation. While at orientation, Boggs met some of her closest friends. She recalled meeting fellow classmate Michael Steele, the 64th Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Academically speaking, Boggs also encountered various gender barriers. For instance, many buildings lacked women's restrooms, and there were few women professors and professors of color.

Boggs recalled receiving a D in Intro to Microeconomics. Boggs was embarrassed by this grade and decided to retake the course her sophomore spring as a result.

The second time around Boggs received an A and

personal approval from Hamilton himself. Hamilton was so impressed by Boggs' determination and hard work that he became her mentor and would go on to write her recommendations for law school.

Boggs also talked about her experience as a part of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC).

"I was a slacker in ROTC," Boggs said. "I needed a way to pay for Hopkins."

So, her commanding officers urged her to become a more serious ROTC cadet by attending Airborne school.

After a few weeks of jumping out of airplanes, Boggs earned her Infantry Parachute Badge.

For Boggs, completing Airborne school would be a tremendous lifetime achievement.

"It is more important in my career than anything else," Boggs said.

Boggs addressed the gender and racial issues at Hopkins during the seventies. Boggs commented on the troubles she faced when Hopkins was not very welcoming to women and African Americans.

"I'm sort of like a jack in the box. I delight in making you wrong," Boggs said.

Following this suit, Boggs started the first women's running program at Hopkins along with a few of her friends. This soon became of the highlights of Boggs's time at Hopkins.

However, she faced many challenges. She described the barriers that hindered the program; Hopkins would not provide transportation or uniforms. The team had to also find their own coach.

Boggs laughed at the memory of receiving a jock strap and a towel each time she entered the gymnasium. Despite her efforts to dissuade the towel attendant from handing her the jockstrap, Boggs and her teammates still received

them when she arrived at the athletic center.

To this day, Boggs remains a avid supporter women's running at Hopkins.

Overall, Boggs had difficulty finding role models that looked like her. Yet, she proudly relishes in the fact that she was not at a loss of mentors or role models throughout her years at Hopkins. She offered advice to the attendees.

"The experience you get as being a student at Johns Hopkins is special," Boggs said.

She noted that the beauty of Hopkins is that people assume things; they assume that the people on the Homewood Campus are smart. The Hopkins brand is quite unique.

"The brand is this person is smart, serious, focused, and knows how to be independent," Boggs said.

Boggs believes Hopkins students will be painted with this "brand" whether it is welcome or not. It also does not matter what major you have.

"The Hopkins brand is hugely helpful to you. If I were you I'd milk it," Boggs said. "That's my advice."

The audience recognized the value of Boggs's advice. First year graduate student Ann Cheng shared these sentiments. She enjoyed hearing Boggs's story and how different it was.

"It was really good to see how different people overcome different challenges," Cheng said.

Despite these challenges, Boggs attributes Hopkins to much of her success as a former Army paratrooper, corporate attorney, staff attorney to the White House and now current executive president of a Fortune 500 company. She reminisces about Hopkins with affection and fondness.

"Hopkins is a love story for me," Boggs said.

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NEWS & FEATURES

Occupy panel presents at second FAS event

FAS, FROM A1
panel did just that by bringing in many more people than usual and prioritizing audience participation."

Kate Khatib, a member of Occupy Baltimore and the co-editor of a book of Occupy stories called *We are Many*, served as the facilitator in the panel discussion. In her opening remarks, Khatib highlighted one of the universal themes of the Occupy movement.

"It's our differences that make us strong and our ability to recognize and respect those differences that gives us power, but it's also our willingness to work together despite our differences that gives us a future," Khatib said.

This theme of solidarity frequently re-appeared throughout the evening.

"The act of coming together, in my opinion, in my critique, in a lot of ways unlocked people's radical creative imaginations to think differently about how we can come together in a different sort of way to find new solutions to stubborn old problems," Michael Premo, a member of Occupy Wall Street, said.

Larry Swetman, a supporter of Occupy Philadelphia, discussed how we must remember the different concerns of various cities, while simultaneously appreciating our unification through our common enemy. Swetman works with InterOccupy, a group that fosters coordination and communication between individuals across the Occupy movement nationwide.

"National coordination has helped inspire people," Swetman said. "When we can start acting in solidarity, then we will become a force of change that they cannot stop because that's how you bring a giant to its knees!"

Panelists also discussed how the Occupy movement and its cries for liberation across the US have inspired change and outreach on a more local level.

Joy Davis from Occupy Baltimore emphasized the importance of using outreach to spread awareness of local issues in communities and encouraged the audience to challenge the status quo. Davis described how outreach in Baltimore has brought attention to the local issue of over development with the Baltimore Development Corporation and the problem of corporate developers coming into Baltimore, which he argues does not benefit the city.

"It's really important in any community, even if you are on a college campus, that you are aware of the issues going on around you and the tools that you can use," Davis said.

Jonathan Cronin, a member of Occupy Austin, explained how the Occupy movement contributed to the success of \$1.57 billion being moved from local corporate bank branches to the credit unions in Austin.

"There's been an amazing thing about seeing people engaged in grassroots activism for the first time ever and being able to sense that personal grasp of power, and this movement is about changing the balance in the equation of power," Cronin said.

Another theme that pervaded was the importance of the role of media in the spread of the Oc-

cupy movement.

University of California, Davis student Artem Raskin discussed the extensive media coverage the Occupy UC Davis movement received. While photographs, such as the infamous image of Lieutenant John Pike spraying Occupy protesters with pepper spray, helped garner attention for the movement, Raskin finds relying on traditional media sources to be problematic.

"I think that relying too much on the media [that] created momentum is problematic because its fickle, and it's going to go away, and the movement must stay and rely on grassroots organizations to keep the attention of the people rather than relying on the media," Raskin said.

Benjamin Philips — or benzotweet, as he's known on the Internet — from Occupy Oakland educated the audience on the importance of social media as a means of building relationships and spreading awareness. Philips serves as a member of the Occupy Oakland media team and believes social media has the power to start revolutions.

"These things that everyone has in their pockets, these cell phones. I mean, we look at these things like they're a toy. We play Angry Birds on them. But this isn't a toy. This is a weapon," Philips said.

Kevin Zeese, a member of Occupy DC, agreed with the idea that social media can serve as a weapon. Zeese further discussed how the democratization of the media has aided the Occupy movement.

"With our networks acting intentionally, we can be the media. We are at the virtual tipping point of media control if we become aware of it and act like it with intention," Zeese said.

The panelists ended their discussions with inspirational words.

"We're moving from a competitive capitalist doggy dog disastrous economy to a cooperative one where we work together to solve common problems, and that's what the Occupy is about!" Zeese said.

The individual speeches were followed by an interactive question and answer session. Overall, the event was received mixed reviews.

Mark Hall, a junior, said he enjoyed the opportunity to listen to the various perspectives presented by the panelists.

"I really like getting the different perspectives that are offered at these events because it's something that you don't get in a lot of places where you can really just listen to the actual person talk, and you look at them and see what they actually think about these things," Hall said.

Davis believes that one of the strongest aspects of the panelist's presentation and discussion was their ability to remain somewhat objective and politically neutral.

"I think it was really cool that the panelists were able to separate their political leanings with their accounts of Occupy's mobilization. In other words, even if one does not agree with many of Occupy's solutions, it was still easy to respect their success as mobilizers of grassroots support and, to a certain extent, producers of change," Davis wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Dance Marathon exceeds fundraising goals

MARATHON, FROM A1
grand total will be ascertained.

Elizabeth Jedrlinic was the non-executive board participant who raised the most money, and the JHU chapter of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority was the non-executive board team.

"Kappa Kappa Gamma ended up getting almost half of our sorority involved. . . we're supposed to dance for those who can't dance," sophomore morale leader Christine Woodburn said.

Dance Marathon's financial success this year can be attributed to an enhanced advertising campaign and more effective publicizing of the event. However, there were fewer participants.

"The event ran much smoother thanks to the efforts of the executive board, and even though the total number of participants this year was slightly lower than last year, the dancers who attended seemed much more passionate about the cause, evidenced by the 60+ dancers who remained on their feet all 8 hours," Colt and Leininger wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

This passion motivated participants to stay on their feet.

"We're not getting tired," sophomore Morale Leader Tory Halterman said at 3 a.m. "We're getting coffee soon."

At the event, students were able to engage in many activities to keep them awake and energetic. Every hour, morale leaders led a 3-minute dance to invigorate participants and keep spirits high. At the end of the night, all the dancers performed for Daniels.

"I am a morale leader so it's my job to keep everyone really psyched throughout the night," said Woodburn. "It's another one of the ways we're trying to keep people excited because it is an eight hour event so it's gets long. We do the dance every hour and get everyone involved, so by the end of the night they know the



COURTESY OF VICTOR FINK

Students and Carrie Bennett, "The Shush Lady," participate to raise money for the Children's Center.

dance and are really excited about it."

However, the event offered more than just dancing, such as student performances, raffles and food, as well as various contests including limbo, twister and hula hooping. The music selection was varied with different hours of themed music, including "Back in the Day," "80s" and "Diva" hours. Students decorated "Helping Hands" banners with traced and signed pictures of their hands and participated in a "Kards for Kids" activity through which students could create a card for a child at the Johns Hopkins Children's Center, both of which are to be personally distributed.

Dancers and executive board members told stories related to Children's Hospitals in "Miracle Minutes" segments in order to emphasize the cause. In addition to the students, President Ron Daniels and Carrie Bennett, commonly referred to as the "Shush Lady," made appearances at the event.

"Last year it was also really fun, but this year we have a lot more going on as

far as keeping everyone entertained and keeping everyone excited. We've got a lot more stuff to give away and activities going on. It's a lot bigger this year," Woodburn said.

The Dance Marathon received funding for the event from the Student Activities Commission, the Alumni Association and the Student Life Programming Grant. In addition to grants, local vendors, including Carma's Cafe, Suitcha, Papa John's, Subway and Krispy Kreme, donated items for the raffles.

The Dance Marathon movement currently includes more than 150 schools throughout the country and supports the Children's Miracle Network (DMN). Each event a school holds benefits their community's CMN hospital.

Neither Colt nor Leininger have personal connections to Johns Hopkins Children's Center, but each has her own motivations for involvement in the Dance Marathon.

"I spent a lot of time in the hospital the first three years of my life. It was a

rough time for my parents and without the support, help, and love of the staff, it would have been even more difficult for them. Due to this, I have a special place in my heart for families and children who are struggling with illnesses and injuries that require them to spend large amounts of time in the hospital. Anything we can do to help lessen the pain, stress and hardship FOR THE KIDS and their families is something," Leininger wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

For many students at Hopkins studying to be doctors and specialize in pediatrics, the beneficiary of the event is particularly pertinent.

"I have wanted to be a pediatrician since I was a kid myself, and this career goal is why I am attending Hopkins as a pre-medical student. My life goal is to help improve children's well-being and, while one day I will accomplish this by being a doctor, I am now doing it by devoting my extra-curricular time to Dance Marathon," Colt wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Positive psychologist visits Hopkins

POSITIVE, FROM A1
most popular course in Harvard's history. A substantial amount of students attended his lecture.

"I needed a break from studying, and I figured I could use some happiness to get me through exams," freshman Julia DiMauro said.

For others, attending Ben-Shahar's lecture was out of academic interest. Students from Professor Stephen Drigotas' Introduction to Social Psychology course attended the speech to earn extra credit.

It is the Hopkins' chapter of Psi Chi, the international psychology honor society, job to appoint the psychiatric expert to present this year's G. Stanley Hall Lecture in Clinical Research, a Hopkins lecture series featuring "today's leaders in psychology," according to Phi Chi's website. G. Stanley Hall, whose academic work falls within the early canon of childhood development studies, taught at Hopkins from 1882 to 1888.

Choosing Ben-Shahar to headline this year's event corresponds with Phi Chi's initiatives this year to establish a precedent of well-being at Hopkins. In 2011, *The Daily Beast* placed Hopkins among the ranks of the country's "most stressful colleges," citing its high tuition, Baltimore's crime rates and the aura of academic competition. This was not the first time

Hopkins has been featured on this list.

Ben-Shahar's lecture serves as the capstone of a university-wide campaign to foster happiness, manifesting Phi Chi's efforts in tandem with the Hopkins Counseling Center. The distribution of a thousand yellow "smiley-faced" pins on the Breezeway preceded Ben-Shahar's arrival in Baltimore; in the past week, a Facebook fan page, "Happier at JHU," has acquired hundreds of followers.

In the speech he delivered, Ben-Shahar declined to reference Hopkins directly, but utilized terms like "academic pressure-cooker" to lament environments in which stress (and, in many cases, depression) reigns. He also made a careful point to tell students that competition is not always the answer.

"Success will not always make you happy," he asserted to the crowd.

He went on to allude to an apparent deprivation of "humanness."

"What's the foundation of a happy life? Permission to be human," he said. "The last thing I want you to think is that I experience a constant emotional high. There are

only two kinds of people who don't experience the full cycle of emotions: psychopaths and people who are dead."

The audience met his comment with laughter and, for some, introspection.

"I wasn't sure what to expect, but he made some valid points," freshman Alexis Ganaway, a student in Drigotas' Introduction to Social Psychology class, said following the lecture.

"When we're teenagers, we think we have to close ourselves off to a lot of our emotions, and sometimes it feels like it comes back to bite us."

His lecture was not only about emotion, however. Ben-Shahar emphasized the psychological benefits of physiological activity, primarily exercise.

"Not exercising," he said, "is like taking a depressant."

He concluded his lecture by urging the audience, at the end of the day, to reminisce and highlight five "positive elements" of the preceding 12 hours.

"When I do that tonight, I know that having the honor of speaking to you all will be on my list," he finished, to the audience's applause.

Pi Phi brings self defense program to JHU women

T.A.K.E., FROM A1
basis to protect themselves," said Pi Beta Phi Chapter President, junior Natalie Copeland. "The chapter was really satisfied. They all had fun and really enjoyed it. I think it was a great experience for everyone who came."

Sisters and non-members alike practiced reactions and defense skills in pairs while the two workshop leaders, Bob and Jill Leiker, ran through various hypothetical scenarios and drills. The physical techniques addressed everything from indicating personal space to actually fighting off an attacker.

"Most people have never thought about this stuff," Bob Leiker told the group.

In addition to addressing basic physical safety points, the couple also gave their views on carrying defensive weapons like pepper spray and other items. At the end of the presentation they shared personal stories and talked about their experiences traveling around the country and teaching self-defense.

"It went really well," Copeland said. "Now when I'm walking home and I'm taking my keys out I think, 'these aren't just my keys they're a weapon.'"

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11 6:30 PM Brain Trivia, presented by Nu Rho Psi (for Brain Awareness Week)	12 7 PM Josh Rabinowitz Comedy Night, Co-Sponsored with The HOP March Madness Begins	13 Nolan's Live Performance: 6 PM Rohit & Shijit Dasgupta 6 PM Stressbusters Evening: Pi(e) Eating Contest	14 St. Patrick's Day Comfort Zone Special	15	16	17 Spring Break Begins!

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Artist's Talk

"Genetic Capital / Productive Slippage"

Introduction: Nadia Hironaka, MICA Film & Video
Respondent: Sam Chambers, JHU Political Science

March 14

MASON HALL

9:00 AM Opening Remarks

9:15 AM **Peter Goodrich**

CARDOZO LAW SCHOOL

"An Instance of the Fingerpost? Emblems, Digits and Structures of Law"

Respondent: Jennifer Culbert, JHU Political Science

10:15 AM **Ron Schneier**

MEDIA EXECUTIVE, NEW YORK

"Online Video, YouTube and Internet TV: New Opportunities for Creators, Distributors and Rights Holders"

Respondent: Wilda Anderson, JHU GRLL

11:30 AM **Wendy Hui Kyong Chun**

BROWN UNIVERSITY, MEDIA AND CULTURE PROGRAM

"Imagining Networks, Experiencing Wealth"

Respondent: Elisabeth Strowick, JHU GRLL

2:00 PM **Nathan Jurgensen & PJ Rey**

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

"Why We Document: Economics and Existence in the Age of Social Media"

Respondent: Renée Martin-Bennett, JHU Political Science

3:00 PM **Jon Reiss**

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS, FILMMAKER

"Artistic Entrepreneurship: Reinventing Events, Products and Forms of Media to Connect with a Global Audience"

Respondent: Patrick Wright, MICA Film & Video

5:30 PM **Sean Cubit**

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

"Eco-critique and the Information Environment"


Respondent: Anand Pandian, JHU Anthropology

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Princess treatment in Kuala Lumpur

To continue on the Asia trend of the past couple weeks, this week I will be talking about Malaysia. Malaysia is the definition of multi-cultural. Though technically a Muslim country, Malaysia is made up of large numbers of Hindus, Buddhists and Christians. Sitting on the subway in Kuala Lumpur, the country's very modern capital city, you will find yourself sitting with an Indian woman wearing a sari, a Buddhist monk, a woman in a colorful headscarf and long dress and a teenage girl wearing a tank top and shorts. You are also very likely to see Arabian Gulf women in full abayas that cover everything except for their eyes. Many of these women are most likely vacationing with their husbands and sons to escape the often-smothering restrictions placed on daily activities by Arabian Gulf countries.

Kuala Lumpur is a very clean and modern city, as I have found many large cities in Asia to be. The people couldn't have been nicer, but the lack of sidewalks and the abominable traffic prevents me from saying that the city is exactly tourist friendly.

On my first morning in Kuala Lumpur, I explored the areas called Little India and Little Chinatown. Little India

was full of stores selling beautifully colored headscarves and saris. I bought myself a lime green headscarf with little gems on it to wear to the mosque later (and because I have always wanted one).

Chinatown was filled with shops selling goodies in preparation for Chinese New Year. There were lucky oranges, red lanterns and basically everything else that you could possibly imagine.

In the afternoon, I explored the Kampung Baru neighborhood, which is famous because it is an un-



Taking in the scene at the National Mosque and wearing the "Saudi Princess" outfit of purple and green attire.

developed, charming residential neighborhood in the middle of the city, right next to the Petronas Towers (the land mark of the city). It is highly sought after by developers but is protected by the city. Walking through the quiet streets, I was able to engage with the residents who emerged from their houses to peek out at me.

I've learned that the best way to overcome a language and cultural barrier is with a smile—it is a universal signal and it shows that you come in peace. Wearing a bright orange sundress (it was 98 degrees out), I hadn't realized that it was a predominantly Muslim neighborhood. But

through non-verbal communication and body language, I was able to elicit positive and welcoming responses from the traditionally clad Muslim women.

It is always the children who are the bravest, as they love to start conversations with me. Little kids riding past me on their bikes would say hi. One boy playing soccer asked me where I was from.

When I said I was from the States, he said "Oh, you give me money?"

Visiting this neighborhood was a really unique

experience for me because there were no other tourists, and, as I was walking through this quiet, residential neighborhood filled with small houses and trees, I could see the Petronas towers looming up from behind—talk about contrast.

I went to the sky bar that evening at the top of the Traders Hotel to get, what everyone calls, the best view of the Petronas Towers. It would have been cool, except the hotel pool is up there with a lot of fat Russian men in Speedos. They kept jumping into the pool and disturbing my peace, especially when one of their bathing suits fell down.

On the second day, I visited the Batu Caves right outside the city. The caves are a religious holy site for Hindus. At the entrance to the caves (well, it was actually more like one big cave) was a giant statue of a Hindu god (I can't remember which one) and behind that are the hundreds of steps leading up to the cave. Inside, there were many shrines dedicated to different gods with pilgrims going from altar to altar and praying. There were also monkeys, everywhere. I thought they were adorable and spent a good twenty minutes snapping photos of them, until one particularly hungry monkey lunged at me bearing his teeth.

After the caves, I headed back into the city to visit the Islamic Arts Museum. My guidebook and trip advisor (if you have

never heard about trip advisor you need to check it out NOW! www.tripadvisor.com. I couldn't imagine planning a trip without it) told me that it was one of the top sites to see in KL and one of the best Islamic Arts Museums in the world.

It did turn out to be a very impressive museum, but I was a bit frightened by the anti-Semitic and "how to be a good Muslim wife" literature that they were selling in the gift shop. Right down the street from the Islamic Arts Museum was the Masjid Negara, or the National Mosque. To go inside, tourists have to put on these long purple robes and headscarves. The women giving out the robes were very impressed that I had brought my own headscarf and told me it was very beautiful.

I must admit, when I had the whole ensemble on, I felt a bit like a Saudi princess (not that Saudis would ever be allowed to wear purple or green, but you get the point). I was not allowed to go inside the actual prayer center of the mosque, so I just wandered around the outside taking in the scene.

My takeaway? Kuala Lumpur is a great city to explore and well worth taking the time to visit if you find yourself in Southeast Asia. But, I wouldn't recommend going in the summer! In my next article, I will continue my discussion on Malaysia and talk about my visit to Penang Island, which is nicknamed the Pearl of the Orient.

Sex and inanimate objects

"The van's a she, it's missing two nuts."

My dear friend James is the brain behind this gem. It was nearly one in the morning and a group of about seven other people and I were sitting in a Hopkins SAC van in an alleyway in East Baltimore, with a flat tire.

The van contained eight passengers, a dirty pillow and a jack, but it was very conveniently missing an accessible spare, a bumper and, as James elegantly brought to our attention, two tire nuts.

So logically, the question came up: What should we name it?

This was where the gender debate came in. I wanted

to name it Neil, but all the men in the van felt that this wouldn't do because the van was obviously a girl. And so we arrived at the real crux of the issue, why do men insist on objects being shes? "I love my new Camaro. She's a beauty." Or "Wow, she's hot." Excuse me, it's enough that men objectify women, but do they really have to womenify objects?

Granted, the missing nut comment was valid and rather clever, but my opinion still stands. Boats, trucks, trains, boilers and all objects with specs that include the terms "horsepower" and "manly" have always been assumed to be feminine. This doesn't make any sense!

The New Oxford American Dictionary defines the term feminine as, "having qualities or appearance traditionally associated with women, especially delicacy and prettiness." In music feminine is defined as, "occurring on a metrically weak beat." "Delicacy... prettiness... weak!" Do any of these adjectives remind you of industrial grade transportation?!

Talk about mixed signals.

Now, let me point out that I'm not stating that women are weak. Rather, I'm perplexed at the cross-modal comparisons here. So I did some research and discovered the similarity. Women and trucks. These are two things that most men admire—and also bacon. So that's it then. I guess it's just a term of endearment (aww). Who says men are bad at expressing their feelings? But there is another discrepancy! Girls do it too. We give traditionally masculine names to things we adore like Mr. Snuggles the teddy bear or Team Jacob.

This isn't anything

new, though. Back in the time of Jesus, the Romans liked to assign gender as well, as in they really liked to assign gender. To the extent that humans, animals, objects and their entire spoken language had sexual identities! Then it got even more crazy when sometimes feminine gendered names would be given to masculine objects and masculine names were given to feminine objects and so on and so on.

Then Rome fell, gave birth to a bunch of Romance languages with gender specificity and the whole thing got out of control. We as English speakers inherited a Eunuch of a language with absolutely no sexual dichotomies and we were forced to create our own system of gender separation. So it's not our fault.

As for the van, it never got a proper name. It remained nameless—and nutless—and was eventually towed away in the brisk Baltimore night, never to be seen again. Actually, it was just returned to the San Martin garage and still has a flat.



Sophia Gauthier So They Say

This is a reaction column to the bizarre college student quotes that sometimes make it past our mental filter, so stay witty! (Seriously, I might run out of ideas.)



Carter Banker The Globetrotter

Hopkins travels far and wide. Get inspired for your next adventure!

Tornadoes, NBA, Lohan on SNL and Spring Break around the corner



Justin Kenney @JustinNOAA

4 Mar

NOAA issued 440 tornado warnings this past week, including 279 on Friday 1.usa.gov/yxbGX0

This past week, tornadoes and storms ripped through the central United States leaving towns, houses, and families torn apart and devastated. Our hearts go out to all affected by this tragedy and wish all a speedy recovery.



Emily Cheung @emilyc420

53m

It's gonna be a busy day....and I have a bad case of the Monday's

Oh no, is it Monday already? The weekends really do go quicker as the semester goes on. I'm sure a lot of us feel your pain. Hang in there! Friday is only four days away and Spring Break is right around the corner.



Faux John Madden @FauxJohnMadden

13h

Deron Williams scores 57 points against the Charlotte Bobcats, which is the equivalent of scoring 20 points against an actual NBA

Only a week after the all-star break, things are starting to pick up in the National Basketball League. The Miami Heat have been on a tremendous winning streak until traveling west and losing to the Utah Jazz and LA Lakers; the Chicago Bulls are looking as strong as ever with Derrick Rose back healthy in the lineup; the Dwight Howard trade deadline is still looming; and Deron Williams broke out this past Sunday scoring 57 points!



COURTESY OF NBC

Lindsay Lohan and cast of SNL as Real House Wives of Disney



Lady Gaga @ladygaga

29 Feb

Getting ready for Harvard. Mother is asking me for fashion advice, little does she know I stole her look. #BTWFoundation

Lady Gaga kick-started her Born This Way Foundation last week with her mother—the foundation's president. It's a foundation to reduce bullying; a great cause for human rights and also addresses a serious problem among schools around the country. Lady Gaga sites her own problems of being bullied throughout school as part of her inspiration to start this. Giving the speech at Harvard Medical School with a panel of experts, hopefully this foundation will ignite the decline of bullying.



Dan D'Addario @DPD

5m

Lindsay Lohan's "SNL" was the season's second-highest-rated; for reference, the season's lowest-rated was hosted by Emma Stone

Lindsay Lohan's attempt at a "recovery" is in full swing as she hosted SNL this past Saturday. Although her acting was a little rough and awkward at times, there were some witty sketches that made up for it (i.e. The Real Housewives of Disney). Here's an interesting stat: a recovering addict scored significantly higher ratings than a Golden Globe nominated actress. Especially with audiences here in the US, who would have thought. #sarcasm

HIP HOP

BUT ALSO observations, rants, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and, of course, sex.

The future is open and vast: Our education deserves better

Hopkins is a high-pressure environment. Students are expected to perform at the highest academic level, participate in extracurriculars, contribute to their community and prepare for the rapidly approaching future. It is this last pressure on which this week's column will focus.

It is surprisingly common for Hopkins students to know (or think they know) exactly how their future should and will play out. Perhaps the goal is some obscure, specialized position at famed hospital X; the examples are endless. The Hopkins administration tacitly supports this type of

thinking by not opposing it with messages in support of exploration and diversity. The summer job is an object of constant conversation, and just one of the weights crushing creativity and care-free expression on campus.

There are those of us who have quite literally no idea what the future holds. Some idea of interest and aim, sure, but an aimed-for path to a determined goal? No, in part out of admission to historical precedent and realistic percentages. This author is admittedly disillusioned with "society" and its "expectations," but the fact remains that standing open to all possible futures is healthy and relaxing.

We all have our heroes whom we seek to emulate

in some or another way. The rest of this article will focus on one of mine: the author and cultural icon Hunter S. Thompson. Thompson's life, and the way he lived it, inspires and confirms my open approach to life, and it should be considered as a counterpoint to the rigid Hopkins mindset.

Thompson (1937-2005) grew up in Louisville, Kentucky, and had both literary and counter-culture inclinations from a young age. During high school, he belonged to the literary club and yearbook staff, but he was eventually arrested for riding in a stolen car and sentenced to two months in prison. The judge offered him a deal, prison or the military, and after one month in the slammer Thompson enlisted in the Air Force. It was during this time that he had his first professional writing experience as a sports writer for a military paper.

Three years into his service, he was honorably discharged. His Colonel wrote, "this airman, although talented, will not be guided by policy. . . sometimes his rebel and superior attitude seems to rub off on other[s]." Upon his release, Thompson dove back into the literary world. He skipped from place to place (Puerto Rico, New York City, Big Sur, Aspen, Rio de Janeiro) taking random jobs, many of which were journalistic in nature. He was an extreme personality and grew used

to being fired.

In 1965, Thompson had his first real breakthrough with an article on California's Hells Angels biker gang. This article led to a well-received book, which in turn led to increased exposure of Thompson's work. In the years that followed, Thompson published numerous articles and books critiquing American political and social culture on both sides of the aisle. Most famous among these is *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, a hallucinogenic journey to the heart of America's hypocrisy and foolishness. Thompson's assignments

included trucking around the American west searching, literally, for the American Dream (one helpful diner owner directs he and his attorney to a local drug den that she thinks is called "The American Dream"), covering *The Rumble in the Jungle* in Zaire and reporting on Vietnam as one of the last civilian American's in the country. He also ran for sheriff of Aspen, CO, on a ticket that promoted decriminalization of drugs among other radical, but reasoned, proposals.

He played his role of professional iconoclast to the last breath, commit-

ting suicide with one of his many guns. His friend and illustrator, Ralph Steadman, wrote that Thompson had "told [him] 25 years ago that he would feel real trapped if he didn't know that he could commit suicide at any moment."

One could argue that Thompson knew that he wanted to be a writer from a young age, and followed that path to fruition. But I argue that his writing was an outlet for his polymathic inclinations and disgust with the box in which his employers and reader attempted to confine him. Of course, I did not discuss his rampant drug use and complete disregard of authority, which too can be viewed as liberating and a sort of metaphorical model.

Dr. Gonzo teaches us that one need not conform to the preset standards put forth by any number of authority institutions: parents, university, government, media. By accepting any and all challenges and direction changes as par for the course, Thompson lived an unpredictable life of immense aesthetic and financial success.

So, Hopkins, take care to notice the box walls around you. Tear through the blinders and see the future as it is: open and vast. The world is not the US and Western Europe. Take the power your education has provided and step into the wonderful abyss, unfettered to expectations or desire.



Nicholas DePaul
Voice from the Underground

This column engages political, cultural and philosophical issues through provocative and occasionally radical argument.



COURTESY OF LJA CANVAS ART
Hunter S. Thompson captured in splotchy white and black canvas art.

Johns Hopkins Confessions
<http://jhuconfessions.com/>

Hopkins students need to show some respect

Hopkins is stressful. We all know that. We have expectations to meet, whether they're our own or our family's; there's homework and social life; tuition and food; and the constant looming idea, is all this money really worth it? The stress piles up while we break down.

Then there are those of us who came into Hopkins with problems already. Not only do we have to deal with our issues, but we also have to listen to people who think that they understand our issues and can help. I trust that attention deficit disorders are common enough that I can skip an explanation.

Mood disorders are my next checkpoint. I have various friends with various flavors of depression and bipolar disorder. When they have depressed days, it's not just because they did poorly on an exam — although it can trigger that. There can be weeks where it's hard to contact them because they hole themselves up in their rooms. If they hit a manic episode, you couldn't catch them with a spider-thread net. This isn't just something that will not just affect your week, but can also taint the months ahead.

I save this for last, not because I think it's more important or more legitimate, but because it's the one I have the most experience with and can, therefore, rant about more. I have the lovely title of GAD. (Well, technically, it's PTSD, but insurance companies won't always provide financial support for PTSD, so GAD is the umbrella.)

GAD is more than just stress about a huge assignment coming up. When I walk past alleys, I ball my hands into fists with either keys poised between my fingers like Wolverine or the knuckle on my middle finger jutting out slightly. I get nauseous when I have to walk by myself, even if it's just from Bloomberg to Shriver. If I accidentally catch my toe on a sidewalk crack, my brain jumps to the homework assignment I turned in a week ago that I knew I could have put more effort into. My day is full of trying to keep myself calm in order to focus during lectures. It's when I get triggered that the fun really starts.

JHU Confessions
a space reserved for your anonymous unfiltered thoughts about Hopkins

The other day in class, I was supposed to make a presentation. As soon as I opened my mouth, the stuttering started. It had been a rough week. A man from the church I was raised in died suddenly. I went to my parents' house for a while to find that the bedroom I had slept in my whole life didn't feel like home anymore. Most impactful, the memories of when

I was younger came back full-throttle as nightmares. I'm usually decent at bottling it up, but making a presentation about children's organizations sent me over the edge. Halfway through my broken first sentence, I hastily excused myself. I sped into the bathroom and sat down on the floor, my head cradled in my hands, as I waited for my mind to settle. My teacher then understood that I wasn't playing hooky last semester when I, "severely needed a mental health day."

It's kind of funny. A lot of people — family, friends, psychologists — have commented that I carry myself with a confidence in which they would have never known that I have an issue unless I explained it. This is when I came to a rather startling realization that a person walking calmly down the hallway might be struggling with way more than I could ever imagine.

I guess that I ranted about this because I want you all to be more thoughtful about your complaints. You may not want to joke about being an alcoholic because someone around you might have a parent who is. I'm not saying to not express things lightly. Goodness, the only thing worse than being obnoxious is treating uncomfortable reality as taboo. I'm just trying to suggest that you consider other people around you as having problems that you can't imagine. And for those of you (well, us) out there with pre-existing issues, it is possible to not get blockaded by the head crazies, a term a friend of mine likes to use. He also has PTSD, so we call each other trauma buddies; we even set up a buddy system, but more on that another week.

Moral of the rant, some students had issues before Hopkins and others on campus should learn how to better respond and better respect those around them.

Taking a trip to Sofi's Crepes: Oui oui bien

As French students and aspiring Francophones, we, unsurprisingly, are obsessed with crepes. Fortunately for us, Sofi's Crepes is right around the corner from Hopkins campus. This past weekend we decided

is a classic, almost like the peanut butter and jelly in America, (though the French might not agree with this comparison)! So we felt obligated to order this "classic" delicacy in keeping with French tradition (side note — you must try a croque monsieur: Grilled Cheese 2.0). We enjoyed The Classic but found its flavors to be less exciting and more standard than those of the Florentine. Shout outs also go to The Kevin Bacon and The Mozz, which our appetites (and our wallets) did not allow us to taste, though they seem like highlights. The Kevin Bacon, named for the actor who frequents this local creperie, consists of turkey, bacon, cheese, tomatoes and 1000 Island sauce. These don't sound like ingredients appropriate for a crepe, but if Kevin Bacon swears by it, so do we (second side note — Nicole Kidman is also a devoted customer)! The Mozz is filled with mozzarella, fresh basil, tomato, cracked pepper and olive oil. The savory crepes span a wide variety of traditional French fare to inventive American creations.

Harry Potter! We also loved the chill music that was playing in the background. When our crepes were ready, we grabbed the two warm crepes folded in tinfoil and found a place at the windowsill. Word from the wise, the crepes get cold quickly, so eat up or else keep them in their wrappers. The crepe itself was fairly thick and a little doughy, but only if you're being picky or you're a crepe connoisseur.

Sofi's Crepes is known for more than crepes! We were thirsty and the root beer there is rated #1. We believed it to be well worth this title! They also offer a selection of Coca-Cola or Orangina in glass bottles.

When we had finished our meal, we were about to head out the door but we were in denial that the meal had to be over. The open kitchen can be seen as an obstacle or successful business strategy, as it is conveniently located right next to the restaurant's entrance and exit. Temperature got the better of us, and we decided to order a Nutty Banana — the classic Nutella-banana combination — on the go. We made a mental note to try the cinnamon sugar and s'mores dessert crepes on our next trip to Sofi's. We were not disappointed by

our decision to extend our meal (in true French fashion might we add), but it was incredibly messy and difficult to eat on the run.

As soon as we left the intimate setting, we were caught in the rain and realized we did not know how to get back to campus. Suddenly desperate for transportation, Alex was determined to jump on a public bus, never mind the Nutella on her face and the fact that she had no idea where it was going. Georgina, the reasonable one, dissuaded Alex by offering her a napkin to wipe her face and then proceeded to sprint after a yellow cab that was blocks ahead. To Alex's not-surprise, she did not make it. Thank goodness there was a bite of warm Nutella crepe to be had after this shared defeat. Utterly hopeless and painfully full, we resorted to huddle under a gas station roof to stay out of the rain, when luckily a cab came to our rescue. The cab ride was around \$6, which is about the price of a Sofi's crepe.

Sofi's Crepes, if you have not been, is not a place to miss out on. Be it on your way to catch a train at Penn Station, after a show at The Charles Theater or simply for your French food fix, we say: allez!

Alex Barbera & Georgina Rupp
Delicious Dishing:
The PhenomeNOMS

We hopped on the J H M I and easily made it to Penn Station, where it was only a short walk to the delicious crepes that lay in store for us. As we approached the hole-in-the-wall location, we knew we would enjoy ourselves once we noticed the scripty font on the building's exterior and the window seating that displayed happy customers munching on warm crepes. We were grateful to step inside and out of the cold. We were thrilled that there was no line to wait in! (Though we've been told that often the wait can be a while.) Our crepes were ready within five minutes, but deciding which ones to order took much longer. We were practically drooling as we read the selection of crepes over and over again. In typical fashion, we asked a million questions about which crepes were customer favorites and which ones our servers recommended at this order-from-the-counter joint. We finally decided The Classic, filled with ham, Gruyere and Dijon mustard, and The Florentine, which consisted of fresh spinach, mushrooms, Gruyere cheese, sunflower seeds, topped with a pepper-parmesan sauce. Despite the suggestions of some other reviewers, we enjoyed the Parmesan sauce and thought it was a great complement to the flavors in this crepe.

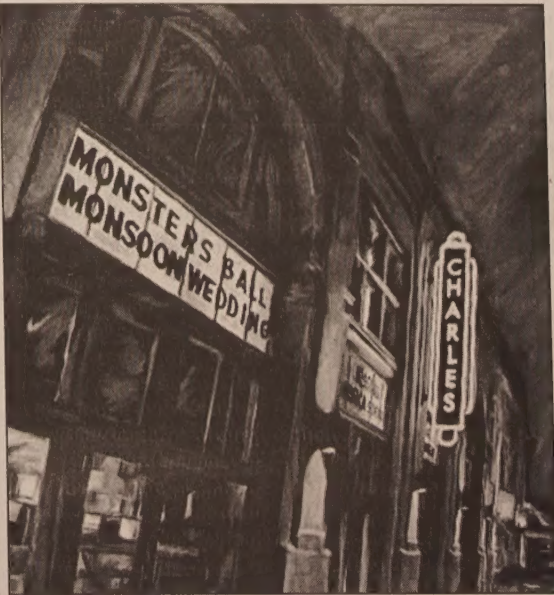
For those who may not know, in France the ham and cheese combination

is a classic, almost like the peanut butter and jelly in America, (though the French might not agree with this comparison)! So we felt obligated to order this "classic" delicacy in keeping with French tradition (side note — you must try a croque monsieur: Grilled Cheese 2.0). We enjoyed The Classic but found its flavors to be less exciting and more standard than those of the Florentine. Shout outs also go to The Kevin Bacon and The Mozz, which our appetites (and our wallets) did not allow us to taste, though they seem like highlights. The Kevin Bacon, named for the actor who frequents this local creperie, consists of turkey, bacon, cheese, tomatoes and 1000 Island sauce. These don't sound like ingredients appropriate for a crepe, but if Kevin Bacon swears by it, so do we (second side note — Nicole Kidman is also a devoted customer)! The Mozz is filled with mozzarella, fresh basil, tomato, cracked pepper and olive oil. The savory crepes span a wide variety of traditional French fare to inventive American creations.

We watched as two young ladies expertly made our crepes behind the counter, and we know they were full of fresh ingredients because they were made before our eyes. As we waited, we took the time to take in our surroundings. The small space calls for limited seating — mainly benches and a counter at the window with tables outside for good weather. Nevertheless, the seating was comfortable and the size creates a relaxing and cozy space. They displayed the work of local artists on the wall, as well as a variety of keys that hung on one of the walls. The keys reminded us of the flying keys from

Sofi's Crepes is known for more than crepes! We were thirsty and the root beer there is rated #1. We believed it to be well worth this title! They also offer a selection of Coca-Cola or Orangina in glass bottles.

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COURTESY OF ROBERT MCCLINTOCK
Sofi's Crepes is a restaurant that no student should miss out on.

Username: Gifted
with G.A.D.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Editorial

Encouraging vital discourse

This week, the Coalition of Hopkins Activists for Israel (CHAI) hosted the annual Israel Peace Week (IPW). A grassroots campaign that focuses on educating students about Israel's steps toward peace with the Palestinians, IPW attempts to respond to anti-Israel propaganda. As one of its events this week, members of CHAI stood on the breezeway, handing out chocolate bars with attached facts about Israel's recent attempts to attain peace.

This page supports CHAI and IPW's goals of respectful dialogue and discussion. We only hope that more avenues for discourse open in the future. For a truly comprehensive community conversation, we would like to see both sides weighing in on the very salient Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

We commend CHAI for attempting to engage Hopkins students in a highly controversial international debate. We also believe that CHAI has done the entire debate a great service by not launching negative attacks on the Palestinians, and instead sticking strictly to what Israel has done in the cause of peace.

This page has long held that the most sensible and efficient way to resolve disputes — especially in a University setting — is through constructive dialogue, in which

each opposing side has a chance to present the facts as they see them. Undoubtedly, CHAI continues to do its part in this debate; the facts it has presented on the Israeli attempts at peace are, for the most part, well-founded and fair.

It is our hope, however, that Palestinians and supporters of Palestine on campus will be represented in this debate as well. Clearly, support for Israel pervades many facets of American society. From Congressional speeches in support of Israeli policies to films and literature championing Israeli history, it is difficult for many Americans to separate themselves from the debate and observe with impartiality. To this end, we hope the Palestinian perspective can emerge and offer another view of the conflict.

In order to facilitate practical discussion and attain actual solutions, we encourage pro-Palestinian students and groups on campus to offer their side of the story. There are many questions left unanswered — many assertions left untouched. While IPW has been helpful in presenting the facts to Hopkins students, no informed conclusions can ever be reached unless both sides have a say. We hope that this debate at Hopkins is only beginning.

Speaking of graduation

Seniors look forward to graduation for one of two reasons. Either because it symbolizes the end of college, and even the end of school for some, or because of the ceremony itself. Corny at worst, graduations can actually be significant and memorable at best. But year after year Hopkins attracts uneven speakers to this prestigious event.

Some speakers feel relevant and accessible like last year's choice, journalist Fareed Zakaria. After delivering an insightful and genuine speech, Zakaria left immediately to return to work rather than sitting through hundreds of names. This could have come across as arrogant or self-important, but instead it just felt real. The 2008 speaker, Bill Nye, also stands out as a popular, yet intellectual choice. Some other speakers have been less satisfying.

It seems to be understood around campus that the wide range in popularity and appeal stems from the fact that Hopkins does not pay speakers, instead offering them an honorary doctorate. The editorial board views this as a problem. The reality is that campus speaker series like MSE and FAS, along with a host of other school-funded programs and initiatives, consistently attract participants, partly through

financial incentives, who are of equal or greater caliber than the average graduation speaker. When so many wonderful individuals are on campus all the time it makes graduation's inconsistencies even more apparent.

This year the Office of the President in conjunction with the Senior Class Council, have selected IBM chair Sam Palmisano as the commencement speaker. This is a natural choice for Hopkins as he is an alumnus and has great influence in the technology industry. Palmisano is incredibly accomplished and no doubt his speech will be substantive and instructive. This page believes that students are looking for something more than just a practical choice, though.

Rarely does this page find itself advocating for additional event expenditures for students. As MSE and FAS clearly show, Hopkins provides an exceptional education and experience as it is without adding any luxury perks. But graduation is a pretty big expenditure anyway, of both money and time, and it is important to this community. The speaker should be consistently exciting from year to year, not just adequate.

Courtesy of Ali Cohen



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THE JOHNS HOPKINS

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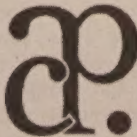
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The Gatehouse
(on the corner of N. Charles
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OPINIONS

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History of hypocrites: Embracing the Arab Spring

By STEFAN KAY

Recently, the Arab Spring and Senator Rick Santorum have led to the resurgence of healthy discussions about democracy and its expansion. Spreading democracy, either directly or indirectly, has been the United States' proud goal for almost a century, and many of its European allies have joined this seemingly noble cause.

While this dedication to "freedom" has its obvious merits, there is a dangerous paradox that exists within the notion of spreading democracy to which politicians and citizens should pay close attention.

On his highly entertaining campaign trail, Santorum has repeatedly made controversial comments regarding last year's Egyptian movement that overthrew Hosni Mubarak. According to Santorum, the U.S. failed to respond to a wave of radical Islamists in Cairo who were trying to violently overthrow the regime. Surely, each one of the

Republican hopefuls has a somewhat understandable tendency to criticize the current administration on all of its decisions (even when they occasionally get it right). But the implications of Santorum's statement go far beyond partisan politics. The issue that both the post-Arab Spring elections and Santorum have resuscitated is a misunderstanding or an unwillingness to understand the fundamental principle of democracy.

Politicians and academics in both Europe and the U.S. have lucidly expressed their displeasure with the success of the conservative

Islamist party in the recent Egyptian elections. Elections in many of the other Arab Spring countries have similarly resulted in the empowerment of Islamist parties. Although some politicians have merely indicated they would have preferred an alternative outcome, many politicians (including Santorum) have shamelessly labeled the Arab Spring movement non-democratic and a failure.

This offensive contradiction goes completely against the goal of spreading and facilitating democracy. Freedom and liberty are by all means supremely important attributes of a democracy, but neither can truly exist without the freedom to elect those who govern. Saying that one only supports this freedom to elect as long as a certain party is elected is akin to saying one only supports freedom of religion as long as ev-

everyone chooses to become a Christian. It completely defeats the purpose of promoting the cause in the first place.

Although this notion may appear straightforward, evident-

ly some politicians still struggle with it. In fact, this rudimentary concept has been lost on many politicians since the beginning of the era of western democracy.

The U.S. decided it was "fighting for democracy" in Vietnam even though Ho Chi Minh was elected with a clear majority by the people. Chiang Kai-shek had backing from the West in its attempts to "bring democracy to China" even though, again, the people indicated in the election that they preferred Mao. The Nicaraguan Contra militia received U.S. grants and support in apparent efforts to "bring freedom to Nicaragua,"

even though the people had indisputably elected the Sandinistas.

The people may not have always elected the "right" rulers (although with these examples it is very difficult to favor the alternatives), but that is the price to pay for democracy. Politicians and civilians all over the world were absolutely dumbfounded when President Bush was reelected, and they were all convinced that voters made an erroneous decision. But at no point did anyone feel it would be appropriate to intervene in U.S. domestic policy and somehow put someone else in power. The point of facilitating democracy is to give people the complete freedom to elect whomever they prefer, without any outside influences over the outcome of their elections. Spreading democracy is no longer democratic if it becomes imposing preferred leadership.

The western powers should embrace the new leadership in North Africa and the Middle East, regardless of the elections' outcomes. Although the current rulers will not always agree with the EU and U.S., they are the first to truly represent the people and their political will, which has almost never before been the case in that region of the world.

It also presents a rare opportunity for the West to support democracy in a fair and exemplary way. The Arab Spring transcended any "spreading of democracy" efforts because it was organic and came from within. Although much of it has been a mess, the Arab Spring is a huge step towards empowering the people in places where they once had no freedom. It would be embarrassingly hypocritical if western politicians did not embrace it.

Stefan Kay is a freshman International Studies and Economics double major from Rotterdam, The Netherlands. He is a Staff Writer for The News-Letter.

Levying a tax on sugary drinks: A sweet deal

By KATRINA RIOS

Whether in the form of Gatorade to replenish electrolytes after a hard workout, 5-hour Energy to get through a long day of classes or Pepsi to get a short-lived energy boost at work, we've all experienced the benefits of drinks with high sugar content. In moderation, the drinks appear helpful — hardly harmful — but how would you feel if your favorite sugary beverage was taxed?

Well, if you live in one of the thirty-three states that currently taxes soft drinks at a mean rate of 5.2 percent, you probably don't mind too much. The tax rate is too low to deter consumers from buying soft drinks, which are a cause for international health concern.

It is common knowledge that obesity has become an epidemic in recent years, with approximately 12.5 million children and adolescents classifying as obese. But what effect has sugary drinks had on this figure? Is the harm significant enough to create a heavy tax? From a public health perspective, the answer is clearly yes.

More studies are emerging around the world on the effects of sugar on the body. While the term "sugar high" is loosely used in common culture, it actually may not be too far from the truth. One study conducted by Oxford University in 2007 examined how rats react when exposed to water sweetened with saccharin and intravenous cocaine. The rats were given both substances with increasing doses of cocaine to the point of addiction. The study found that a shocking 94 percent of the rats preferred the taste of the sweetened water as opposed to the cocaine. This clearly displayed the addictive potential of

intense sweetness.

As if the higher sugar consumption isn't bad enough, it is correlated with a significant decrease in milk consumption. Rates of heart disease and diabetes have also increased in a similar pattern to the sugary beverage line. The influence of media, targeted advertising, availability and the relatively low cost of sugar drinks have all added to the tempting trend to switch out healthier alternatives for less expensive ones. But what if drinking healthier was more cost efficient?

If a tax of one cent per ounce is placed on sugary drinks, the state of Maryland alone would generate about \$243,933,134 if people still decided to buy the products, according to calculations from the Yale Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity. The kind of revenue gained could be used to create access to healthy beverages and foods in socioeconomically challenged areas where obesity-related illnesses run rampant due to a lack of affordable food choices. Over time, people won't feel the need to spend extra money for sugary beverages when healthier, more affordable alternatives exist. This could very well create a domino effect for positive healthy lifestyle changes and reduced incidence of disease.

Having an occasional soft drink will not pose a threat to your health, but, when thinking of the accumulative results displayed by the Oxford rat study, it is easy to make a small treat turn into an unhealthy habit. A sugar tax seems to be the most viable solution to help stimulate lasting changes that will make people think twice before taking a sip of that soda.

Katrina Rios is a freshman Public Health major from North Miami Beach, Fla.

Israel on path to peace, but partners trailing

By GARRETT RANSOM

From Feb. 27 to Mar. 9, the Coalition of Hopkins Activists for Israel hosted the Israel Peace Week Initiative. The Israel Peace Week Initiative is a proactive, engaging campaign, which aims to educate campus populations about Israel's efforts and desires for peace, despite its lack of adequate peace partners in the region.

For much of the past century, Israel has struggled to even begin a peace process with its neighbors. From the moment it was recognized in 1948 to the present day, Israel has been forced into a constant state of war by its antagonistic neighbors.

Despite such challenges, Israel has thrived as a nation. Its current GDP per capita is \$31,004 (higher than New Zealand, Spain and Italy), grew 4.3 percent in 2011 and ranks 17th in the Human Development Index. Israel is a Jewish democratic state that despite its Hebrew roots provides citizenship, full rights and protection under the law to Arabs, Christians, Druze, Bedouin and many other minorities. Its neighboring countries pale in comparison to Israel's success and fair government.

The steps Israel has taken to make peace show how committed it is, even sacrificing some of these economic successes to achieve this goal.

One major concession was made when Israel ceded the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt after having gained it during the Six-Day War. The Sinai Peninsula had Alma oil field, valued at \$100 billion and was estimated to make Egypt energy-independent by 1990. This was surely Israel's greatest energy asset, but they gave it up for peace.

Additionally, in just one five-day period in 2011, Israel allowed 30,000 tons of aid material to en-

ter the Gaza Strip after having withdrawn 8,000 Israelis from the land in 2005.

Israel also signed the 1994 Israel-Jordan Peace treaty in which Israel agreed to send 50,000,000 cubic meters of water each year to Jordan. It also ceded 75 percent of the water from the Yarmouk River to Jordan and allowed Jordan to have preference over Muslim holy places should a peace agreement be reached between Palestinians and Israelis.

In 2000, the Camp David Summit showed the farthest leaps yet, in which Israel agreed to give 97 percent of the West Bank and 100 percent of the Gaza Strip in exchange for peace. This was rejected by Yasser Arafat, President of the Palestinian National Authority.

President Shimon Peres's current Valley of Peace Initiative shows the continuing dedication Israel has to peace and economic cooperation. This initiative calls for the private sector development of a canal system worth \$3 billion which would join the Red Sea to the Dead Sea. The initiative also includes the construction and operation of Qualifying Industrial Zones, industrial parks which would serve as centers of collaborative effort in the region.

These steps present a strong case that Israel actively seeks peace with its neighbors. It has taken enormous steps and made great concessions. After all, the Torah calls for Jews to love their neighbors as themselves and to refrain from holding grudges or seeking revenge. Is it truly fair to say that Israel isn't following these recommendations?

Garrett Ransom is a sophomore Molecular and Cellular Biology and Applied Math double major from Tampa, Fla.

Sonia Tsuruoka

The politics of hope: Yes we can?

Sure, the bitter, protracted contest between Mitt Romney and Co. is technically still an open-ended question. But it doesn't take a number-crunching analyst to tell you that for underdogs Gingrich, Santorum and Paul, it's already settled. Even now, strategists on both sides of the aisle are busy prepping the ring for what's looking to be the final face-off between Mitt Romney — the GOP's de facto nominee — and President Barack Obama.

And things are just beginning to get interesting. For the first time in months, the economy is looking up, and the gains it's made are holding steady. The unsightly hordes of self-proclaimed revolutionaries who've cornered the market on "anti-establishment" frustration — from Occupy Wall Street to the original Tea Parties — have somewhat quieted. From the East Coast to the West, it seems, the tone has changed from widespread malaise to one of cautious optimism, with a handful of data-happy economists speculating that the recession itself may finally be in recession.

Which poses a bit of an existential crisis for Republicans in the months leading up to this November's showdown. See, the "Party of 'Just Say No'" shtick will only take you as far as the economic data lets you — and while it might be a little early for drunken, nationwide celebrations, it's only a matter of time until the Right's divisive "doomsday" rhetoric outwears its welcome. Don't get me wrong: the flat rate of growth, along with our unchanged long-term unemployment numbers, prove we're still saddled with serious economic woes. Rising oil prices and fallout from Greece's globally felt crisis loom ominously on our horizon. But the national mood is changing considerably — something that says we're on the mend in more ways than one — and many can't help but notice our discourse these days seems less helpless than hopeful.

Hope: there's a word that seems long retired from our political lexicon, right alongside the impassioned "Yes We Can!" and "Change You Can Believe In." But it's coming back in a big way — slowly, if ever so surely — and I suspect whichever candidate can carry that sentiment over into campaign territory will catch a windfall going into November.

That's stellar news for Obama, not because the Democratic Party boasts any kind of ideological monopoly on "hope" but because of the rhetorical wall Republicans have been backing themselves into, consenting, over the past four years. It was Republicans, for instance, who chose to speak in absolutes, alleging that the President's "socialist policies" were putting the economy in an inescapable "stranglehold." It was Republicans who derided his grand, expensive agenda as a project with no payoff, at a time when liberals' starry-eyed faith seemed foolish, incomprehensible. And if the economic data hadn't improved — if the manufacturing and automobile industries hadn't caught a second wind — they would've had the numbers to back them up.

But the circumstances surrounding such rhetoric have changed dramatically over the past few months. Even now, the "Obama isn't working!" catchphrase coined by Romney, Gingrich, Santorum and Paul has faded from a shrill chorus to a sheepish whimper. Of course, these changing tides don't necessarily invalidate the principles behind fiscally conservative rhetoric, but they do cast the "nature" of the rhetoric itself in a more unattractive light. If the political and economic weathervanes are to be trusted, employing the same kind of fear-mongering, fatalistic language would not only fall at odds with reality, but at odds with national spirits. Simply put: the tone of the conversation has changed. We're no longer slinging accusations about who's responsible for what economic ruin, and why.

We're shouldering past the hysterical rage, the dreadful caricatures of "Obama as Marx" or as "Secret Kenyan." Instead, we're preparing to talk about possibility — the possibility, that is, of recovery and resurgence, of revitalization and reunification. For the first time in years, it seems, we're looking to the future.

So here's to a new brand of heartland optimism — a thriving, national electorate licking its wounds in recovery. Sure, there's a little blood in our mouth, but also a kind of survivalist grit and vigor that's so deeply American, so fundamental to our very existence. To seize that mantle — that audacious promise of a tomorrow — wouldn't come close to reversing the wear and tear produced by years of class, culture and ideological warfare. But it would, in near certain terms, comprise a first, courageous step in the right direction.

In the end, it's just a matter of which candidate is more capable of harnessing national momentum. According to a new *NBC News/Wall Street Journal* Poll, 50 percent of Americans approve of Obama's job performance — his highest numbers since the killing of Osama Bin Laden. Likewise, Obama leads former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney 50 percent to 44 in a hypothetical match-up, breaking the virtual tie recorded last December.

If things go Obama's way — that is, if the numbers stay where they're supposed to — it'll prove increasingly difficult to unseat him in November. But if Republicans want to give their candidates a fighting chance, they'll need to find a more uplifting, ambitious political mandate and the self-restraint to stay on message.

Sonia Tsuruoka is a sophomore International Studies and Writing Seminars double major from Montclair, N.J. She is the political opinions columnist for The News-Letter.

PHOTO ESSAY



BY CAROLYN HAN

THE B SECTION

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MARCH 8, 2012



HOPKINS WOMEN'S LACROSSE



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B12

YOUR WEEKEND MAR 8-11

B'more under siege of odd weather

The annual blooming of the cherry blossoms in D.C. will peak early this year

Winter is coming — or is it? On one hand it has been quite pleasant not to walk in between classes, to the supermarket or to anywhere around Baltimore when it's actually freezing.

On the other hand, when it has been just on the colder side of "normal," then it feels like it's freezing.

This week especially has been weird.

Over the weekend, I regretted not spending a good amount of time outside, but, by the time I was walking outside of my Tuesday afternoon class, I was freezing. Krieger 205's unusual chilliness may have made things worse, but it still was not a pleasant day.

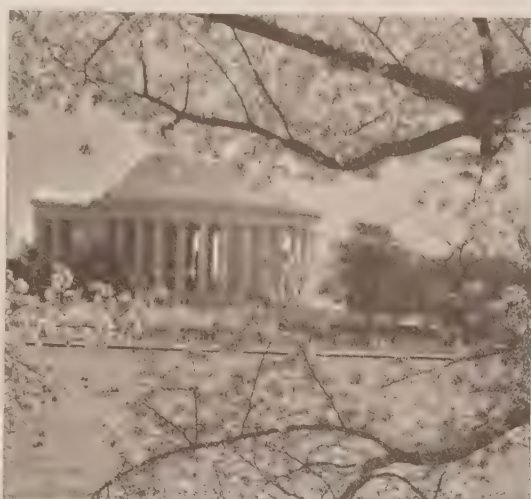
Did anyone else notice the few minutes of sporadic snow on Monday?

Then there's today (Thursday, depending on when you are reading this), a tad windy but otherwise really-warm-for-early-March (or so it was forecasted when I actually wrote this). If you were hibernating for the "winter" you would think it was already April or May until you looked at the calendar.

The birds are certainly confused: I heard way too much chirping outside of the Interfaith Center last week and none on Monday evening when I passed by the same spot.

Who else is "confused" by all of this?

Well, if you have followed the news, you may have heard about trees and plants in various parts of the country blooming



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Be sure to go to D.C. and check out the annual cherry blossom festival.

prematurely. I personally haven't seen much plant activity along my regular routes, but soon they will start flowering and the pollen will follow shortly.

That's unfortunately going to make for a miserable spring, as pollen

counts from plants flowering during the spring are expected to set new records this year.

Even if you never suffered from seasonal allergies before, this might be a first if last year was not bad enough already.

The one possibly positive side to this early spring is the annual blooming of the cherry blossoms down in Washington D.C., which is expected to peak during the last week of March, a bit early compared to the usual average of April 4.

Obviously this doesn't impact the annual festival that accompanies the bloom, which lasts five weeks starting on March 20th.

While I really should be speaking only for myself, this is one event you should check out before you move on with your life after Hopkins.

There's certainly a whole lot to enjoy during the festival, which includes food vendors, entertainment and a parade on April 15.

Plus, the trees are celebrating their centennial; the original 3000 trees were introduced in 1912 — with the first two Yoshino cherry trees, still standing to this day, planted by Helen Taft and Viscountess Chinda.

Even if you can't make it down to D.C. to enjoy the blossoms, just try to make an effort to be outside in Baltimore over the next few weeks, especially before we hit the peak of the pollen counts. Spend some time sunbathing on the Beach or on Wyman Quad. Study outside. Toss a frisbee around.

The only thing worse than sneezing and severe sinusitis from colds are the same symptoms from spring allergies.

Freshii offers fresh food and quick service

By FLORENCE LAU
Your Weekend Editor

In the mood for wraps? How about noodles? Or perhaps you're looking for something more desert-appropriate, such as frozen yogurt. Whatever healthy option you're looking for, be it breakfast, lunch, dinner or desert, you can probably find it at Freshii.

This health food chain, which first opened in Charles Village in Fall 2011, promotes fresh food that is custom built.

They offer two versions of a menu, one featuring items which are already put together to make a creation for you and one where you get to choose the ingredients to go into your wrap, salad, noodles or rice.

The first menu features options like asian noodle bowls (rice noodles, grilled chicken, cucumbers, carrots, edamame, wontons and warm peanut sauce) and antioxidant crunch salads (spinach, grilled chicken, blueberries, broccoli, celery, almonds,



COURTESY OF URBANITEBALTIMORE.COM

You can order a variety of items off of a pre-made or a custom menu.

EVOO and balsamic vinegar), among tens of other options. Prices tend to range from \$5.99 to \$8.99, although most choices tend to average out around \$6.99.

If you're not in the mood for any of the pre-mades, though, there's always the custom build menu, from which you can pick what you want from base to cheese and nuts to veggies and dressings. You can

even pick your own serving size.

Or course, you can't forget froyo. It's \$4.99 for a 12 oz. classic tart serving with a choice of two toppings. You can pick from a variety of choices, including banana, mango, honey, walnuts, oreo, sunflower seeds and more.

Freshii is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Mondays to Saturdays and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sundays.

Museum prices lowered Fridays after five

By FLORENCE LAU
Your Weekend Editor

If you've been meaning to go to visit the National Aquarium or the Maryland Science Center, you should take advantage of the deal they are offering from now through the end of March.

For this month only, prices for admission are lowered to \$8 after 5 p.m. on Fridays.

The regular price for Aquarium admission is \$24.95; the Friday deal will cover a basic ticket. Dolphin and 4D shows can be added for \$4 each.

The National Aquarium is home to over 16,000 specimens and 650 species of animals, from amphibians and birds to reptiles and fish. Here, you can enjoy special exhibits of jellyfish, dolphin shows and a 4D immersion theatre show.

The science center usually charges \$18.95 for the regular exhibit halls along with the planetarium, demo stage and one IMAX film. The \$8 ticket will cover all of these exhibits and shows as well.

Watch an IMAX film about underwater creatures from the Triassic,

Jurassic and Cretaceous periods. Go stargazing in the Observatory on Fridays from 5:30 — 8 p.m. See the science of combustion, illusions, nanotechnology and more in action. Enjoy Science on a Sphere, a visualization system that uses projections to display animated data onto the outside of a sphere.

There are only a limited number of cheap tickets available per Friday, so be sure to reserve your tickets ahead of time if you're planning a trip to either of these two places this March.

Calendar of Baltimore Events

Thurs. March 8

Stand Up Comedy:
Jimmy Ouyang
7 — 10 p.m.
Nolan's on 33rd

The HOP and Nolan's are presenting a two part stand up comedy series. This first event will feature Jimmy Ouyang, who was recently selected by FunnyorDie as one of the top 30 comedians under 30 to watch.

The Addams Family
8 p.m.
Hippodrome Theatre

It's the opening weekend of performances of The Addams Family, a macabre new musical fresh off Broadway about Gomez and Morticia Addams

and how they cope with their daughter's new "normal" boyfriend. Performances run through Mar. 18th. Check the Hippodrome website for times.



COURTESY OF DIGICO.BIZ

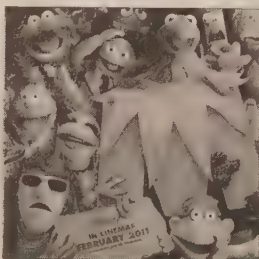
Fri. March 9

Into the Woods
8 p.m.
Centerstage

Stephen Sondheim's famous retelling of the Grimm fairy tales tells the story of what happens after Happily Ever After. There will be cheaper previews this weekend, and the show officially opens on Mar. 14th, running through Apr. 15th. Preview ticket prices run from \$15 to \$45.

Legion
8 p.m.
Merrick Barn

The John Astin Theatre presents a play about a mysterious person or organization called the Legion. It features Hopkins theatre students with guest artist John Astin. Additional performances will be at 8 p.m. on the 10th and 2 p.m. on the 11th. Tickets are \$5 for students with ID.



ONLINEMOVIESHUT.COM

The Muppets
8 p.m.
Remson 1

HOP Friday Night films presents The Muppets, a heart-warming film about saving an old theatre from an oil tycoon, starring Jason Segel, Amy Adams and, of course, the Muppets.



WATSONANDOAK.COM

Bill Bellamy
8 p.m.
Baltimore Comedy Factory

Bill Bellamy, known for his career in film, television, stand up comedy and more, will be telling some of his signature comedic stories about growing up in Newark at Power Plant Live.

Sat. March 10

Konica Minolta Face-Off
All Day
M&T Bank Stadium

Come see the nation's top ranked lacrosse teams face off against each other: Princeton vs. North Carolina (11 a.m.), Virginia vs. Cornell (1:30 p.m.) and UMBC vs. Hop-

kins (4 p.m.).

Federal Hill Irish Stroll
12 — 9 p.m.
Federal Hill

Enjoy food specials, green beads, beer and a strolling bag piper in Federal Hill to kick off the St. Patrick's Day season.

Shades of Love
7:30 — 9 p.m.
Germano's Trattoria

Jazz vocalist Diane Hoffman will be presenting a cabaret of expressive love songs spanning across a variety of situations and almost a century of compositions.

Purim Pandemonium
9 p.m. — 1 a.m.
Jewish Museum of Maryland

Step back in time to the 1920s — the time of Prohibition, flappers, gangsters and bootleggers. Pick a role and join in the party. There will be a DJ, an open bar and re-

freshments.

Sun. March 11



THIRDDAGE.COM

St. Patrick's Day Parade
2 p.m.
Various

The St. Patrick Day parade steps off the Washington Monument at 2 p.m., continues down Pratt Street and Market Place and ends up near the Inner Harbor. Come join thousands in a celebration of Irish music and culture.

Orgy
6:30 p.m.
Rams Head Live

Come out to see Orgy, which spawned from LA's alternate metal scene. Tickets at \$20.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Potiche kicks off second week of French film fest

By BARBARA LAM
Arts & Entertainment Editor

François Ozon's film *Potiche* translates to English as "trophy wife," but the term is better understood as a "decorative vase."

"When I think about a trophy wife I think about a young, beautiful woman the man marries after he has made it in the world," Laura Mason said as she introduced the film, which kicked off the second week of the third annual Tournées Festival of Contemporary French Cinema.

A professor in both the German Romance Languages and Literatures Department and the Film and Media Studies Department, Mason's expertise in the French language, culture and filmmaking history made her an ideal speaker for the night.

"[Suzanne Pujol] is not the young, beautiful, second wife. *Potiche* refers more to an ornamental vase that you put in your hallway and admire, and it's there but you don't necessarily think about it."

Potiche centers on Suzanne, brilliantly portrayed by Catherine Deneuve, and her liberation from housewifery.

The film begins in her later years and although she was beautiful in her day — several scenes show a young, sultry Suzanne seducing men — she's not the prize of a pissing contest but rather the prize of an ideal nuclear family.

Her presence in the household is reassuring and completes the family portrait, but she is as deaf, dumb and blind as a vase.

She's ignorant to her husband's infidelities, and, when she speaks up, he tells her that her place is neither in the kitchen nor at the nightclub, but only in the background, silent and nodding.

When head of the household Robert Pujol falls ill and leaves the country for several months, Suzanne takes his place of power in the home and the factory. As acting CEO of their umbrella factory, she squashes the union strikes and enlists her son and daughter to work for her, all while becoming a beloved leader.

An interesting sparring for power follows, a result of complex family relations and obligations. Their daughter Joëlle is torn

SEE POTICHE, PAGE B5

Thoroughfare hosts second coffeehouse event

By HSIA-TING CHANG
Arts & Entertainment Editor

You wouldn't necessarily think that a dorm-necessitated cafeteria would be the hub of literary or cultural activity at Hopkins, but *Thoroughfare* events have proved in the past, and continue to prove now, that student arts can flourish just about anywhere.

This Monday night, *Thoroughfare Magazine*, which fashions itself a "multimedia literature and arts magazine," held the second of its coffeehouse events at Nolan's in Charles Commons.

The first coffeehouse event was held last semester. *Thoroughfare* recruits its writers from the undergraduate population, encouraging Hopkins students to submit original poetry and prose, music, art and video projects to the magazine, which runs solely online and in digital format.

Joining them for the first time was *Baltimore by Hand*, a student outreach program that takes tutors into Baltimore City elementary schools to nurture literary talents in the grade school children.

Both *Thoroughfare Magazine* and *Baltimore by Hand* publish their students' works, and the two student groups seem committed to giving their contributors a space for artistic expression. The evening began with an edible offering of pizza, snack foods and sodas, capitalizing on the college student's dedication to free food.

Music by Liz Eldridge played in the background as attendees were invited to peruse artwork, mostly photography, that had been submitted to the magazine. Many of the pieces featured nature and landscapes in some way, though each presented a specific point of view.

Whether the artist found the struts of the Atomium — which look like infinitesimal chemical bonds between atoms — fascinating, as junior Brittany Leung did, or the contrast between a shadowy train station and sunlit cityscape, as junior Lay Kodama did, each piece gave the audience a point of visual interest on which to focus.



COURTESY OF GEORGINA EDIONSERI

Student artists Sindhu Carmen, Alessandra Bautze and Lay Kodama presented during the coffeehouse.

Thoroughfare events . . . continue to prove now that student arts can flourish just about anywhere.

Artists featured included junior Kathryn Alsmann, junior Eric Luitweiler, sophomore Vi Nguyen and junior Jiayi Wang. The physical prints of the artwork were raffled off, as part of the evening's entertainment.

The first two poems were written and read by sophomore Isaac Brooks. "Daytime: A Quatrain Cycle" captures Brooks's interest in formal poetic structures. He wanted to chal-

lenge himself and, "get a better handle on rhyme," so he decided to write a quatrain — a four line rhyming stanza — every day.

The times at which he writes, usually sunrise and sunset, had an obvious effect on the development of the poem and, though each quatrain has a slightly different rhyme scheme, obviously helped to structure the poem's movement. "Daytime" tracks the progress of the sun throughout the day.

Brooks also read "Without Form." Unlike many poets who prefer not to write in form, Brooks found

writing "Without Form" difficult precisely because it did not adhere to any formal structure. The absence of a governing structure parallels the confusing emotional reactions of Brooks's speaker, who has, ostensibly, fallen in love and does not know how to handle the sudden influx of feelings.

Brooks made for a particularly interesting reader, since he alone of all the participants shared some insight into his writing process and what his intentions were in writing the showcased poetry.

Following Brooks was SEE THOROUGHFARE, PAGE B5



COURTESY OF GEORGINA EDIONSERI

Various pieces of artwork were displayed and raffled throughout the evening.

Prolific writer Alice Notley performs poetry at Hopkins

By KRISTIAN JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Alice Notley is a renowned poet, having published over 20 volumes of poetry, and has won an armful of literary prizes — the most recent being the Leonore Marshall Poetry Prize for *Grave of Light: New and Selected Poems 1970-2005*.

She is known for her challenging experimental poetry, which is also known to incorporate feminist themes with political statements. Making it, as said in the introduction, "prophetic."

Once Notley got onto the stage, her long shaggy white hair came instantly into view.

Its monochrome wildness was an indication of what was to come. That is, if her previous collection *Disobedience* hadn't given one already.

She wasted little time on an introduction, instead wanting to get to the real point of her visit, her poetry, as quickly as possible.

An introduction would provide context, which she pointedly wanted to give little of. Notley started off

with her most recent volume of poems, *Culture of One*.

The poems revolve around the narratives of several eclectic characters in a desert town in Arizona. One of whom, is Marie, who lives in a shack in the town dump.

She has no job, and makes no money, subsisting off of an anonymous donor. Marie makes artwork from the trash, and her only companions are several dogs. Other residents are the Goddess of Mercy, her arms touching everyone, and Leroy, a pathological liar until he gets a truth serum, as well as a group of mean girls.

With little ado, we are rushed into this world, each narrative playing a part in the other.

The poems form a mosaic of both time and themes, which Notley dances through without hesitation. Her recitation was a breathless rush through the tangled verses, taking us distances at such speed, that it was impossible to sometimes follow. Some had personal resonance, as they ended with a few quick sobs, but not for long, as she quickly moved to the next poem.

A particularly harrowing poem details the plan of the mean girls looking to maliciously mess around with Marie. They can't burn her shack down, like they have done many a time, because she repeatedly rebuilds it. Instead they target one of Marie's dogs.

Observing where the dog travels every night,

they conspire to put crushed glass in a tin of dog food along its path.

Later that night, the dog bleeding from its internal injuries after eating the glass, comes back to the shack, to die in the lap of Marie. Marie, covered in the blood of her recently departed friend, hears the watching mean

SEE NOTLEY, PAGE B5



COURTESY OF KRISTIAN JOHNSON

Alice Notley received a warm welcome from attendees at Hopkins.

This Single of the week, "Bait and Switch," comes from long time favorite alternative band, The Shins.

It will be featured on their upcoming album *Port of Morrow*, set to release Mar. 20th by Columbia Records to much fan anticipation, especially due to the band's prolonged hiatus.

The Shins haven't released an album since 2007's *Winning the Night Away*, but they've still stayed in the hearts and minds of all who hold indie music dear.

Although it's been a while since The Shins released any music at all, that doesn't mean they haven't evolved with the musical trends.

Port of Morrow includes some electronica not present in previous albums, attesting to their ability to change with the times (in a good way, that is).

These electronic sounds are even present in the very first guitar chords of "Bait and Switch" and set up the expectations for the

rest of the song.

The Shins's classic acoustic guitar lines are certainly not gone, but altered slightly with a modern twinge. "Bait and Switch" has a relaxed-pop feeling that brings to mind old upbeat Shins favorites like "Caring is Creepy."

In addition to the quick-paced electric guitar, lead singer James

Mercer also carries the song with his instantly recognizable, impossibly high, vocals.

The track is a delightful mix of the classic Shins sound we know and love, and a modern, electronic undertone to keep listeners on their toes.

If anything, the Shins have proved that music, like fine wine, only gets better with time.

Everyone check out *Port of Morrow*, in stores and available online on Mar. 20th.

Until then, you can satisfy your Shins cravings with "Bait and Switch" and other early releases like "Simple Song." Enjoy!

— Rachel Schnalzer

Hot Singles on the Internet:
The Shins' "Bait and Switch"

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Documentary rethinks known American history

The BGSA screens *Slavery by Another Name* in honor of Black History MonthBy ALLI GRECO
For *The News-Letter*

Author Anatole France once said, "History books that contain no lies are extremely dull." The largely unknown chapter of American history unveiled on Mar. 3 at a "Dinner and a Movie" event sponsored by the Black Graduate Student Association is anything but glamorous. It is, not surprisingly, omitted from many textbooks that provide a fraudulent but friendlier interpretation of history.

At the Johns Hopkins Office of Multicultural Affairs, the BGSA presented *Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black People in America from the Civil War to World War II*, a documentary based on the book of the same name by Douglas A. Blackmon.

The documentary argues that, contrary to popular belief, slavery did not end with the Emancipation Proclamation of 1865 that followed the Civil War. Rather, white Southern landowners, unwilling to accept the Union's defeat of the Confederacy and the loss of their slaves, devised unlawful systems that forced freedmen back into slavery.

According to President Nicole Thornton, a Political Science doctoral student, the BGSA showed the documentary as part of the group's ongoing effort to provide a "support network" for graduate students with African-American roots. By orchestrating this program, the BGSA stayed true to its commitment to spreading awareness of pressing cultural issues.

Vice President of BGSA and Chemical Biology graduate student Francine Morris added that within the graduate school community, there are "a couple of black students here and there." Since it appears easy for black graduate students to feel outnumbered by their classmates, mostly of different races, it is important to provide them with a support network by presenting documentaries like *Slavery by Another Name* that speak to a largely shared heritage.

Unfortunately, a "straight, simple, exploit-

COURTESY OF WWW.PBS.ORG
The documentary featured several narratives, such as the stories of convicts who worked in peonage.

ative system" is part of this shared heritage. The Thirteenth Amendment may have freed thirteen million slaves in 1865, but, as seen on the Library of Congress's website, the Amendment states that if a freedman committed a so-called "crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted . . ." nothing stopped a former slave owner from reclaiming him as a slave. This practice was known as "convict leasing."

In the 1870s, a set of nonsensical laws "criminalized black life," as history professor Talitha LeFlouria puts it and allowed for slavery's reconstitution. Additionally, historian Khalil Muhammad marvels at how simple acts that were misdemeanors, such as stealing a pig, turned into felonies and were grounds for arrest. Worst of all, the federal government did nothing about this disgusting system for so long.

Although illegal, slave owners secretly utilized peonage as an excuse to convict the "criminals" and enslave them. Peonage, or "debt servitude," involved the enslavement of black people because of the notion that they supposedly owed something. In other words, whites argued that since black inmates were unable

to pay the exorbitant fines following their arrests, they deserved to be enslaved without due process.

This vicious cycle continued for the next 30 years. The rich became richer at the expense of the suffering of slaves whose freedom had been robbed. Corporal punishment was normal, and slaves were often held beyond the terms of their sentencing. It was not until the dawn of the twentieth century that slave owners were beginning to be indicted for convict leasing and peonage.

However, re-enslavement did not stop there. For instance, although the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded in 1909, many African Americans were still sharecroppers, giving landowners a share of their crop in exchange for using their land. The President needed to step in.

On Dec. 12, 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, a strong advocate of rights for African-Americans, signed Circular 3591, which outlawed slavery by any name in the United States.

Once the movie ended and the event's attendees sat down to dinner provided by the BGSA, they gave striking opinions of

the documentary and provided insight into race relations at Hopkins.

When asked about her reaction to African Americans' re-enslavement, Tonia Poteat, a Ph.D. candidate at the Hopkins School of Public Health, responded, "I'm not surprised." Poteat mentioned that her family hails from North Carolina and suspected that some of her African-American ancestors were victims of convict leasing and peonage.

Conversely, Chantal Bodkin-Clarke, a Trinidadian graduate student in Hopkins's Cell, Molecular, Developmental Biology, and Biophysics program was surprised that "there was no justice" for the arrested freedmen.

As for racial diversity at Hopkins, both women echoed Francine Morris's sentiment that students of African American descent are underrepresented in the graduate student body and that they often feel uncomfortably "aware of [their] race," as Bodkin-Clarke explained. Hopefully, seeing this film and uniting underneath the same roof provided not only a clearer understanding of the past but also tools with which to build a more racially diverse and supportive school community in the future.

Chenoweth saves an otherwise doomed GCB

Alright, I'll admit it. I was extremely skeptical before I even started watching the pilot of *GCB*, ABC's new show that's basically an adult version of *Mean Girls*. I mean, Southern accents and cowboy hats? *Mean Girls* might work in a high school setting but in Texas? Yeah, probably not.

Still, like many other people I'd talked to, I gave it a chance. Yes, before you ask, it was because Kristin Chenoweth was cast as the primary antagonist, and I wanted to watch her play someone bitchy. (Okay, who am I kidding? I just wanted to see her on my TV.)

GCB — previously *Good Christian Bitches* and then *Good Christian Belles* before settling on the ambiguous *GCB* — follows Amanda Vaughn (Leslie Bibb), a former "mean girl" and recent widow who is forced to return to Dallas with her children after her husband and his mistress die by accidentally driving off a cliff and was subsequently exposed for being involved in some sort of Ponzi scheme.

Not only does she have to deal with her overbearing and meddlesome mother, Gigi Stopper (Annie Potts), but, in Amanda's absence, a former high school classmate she used to harass, Carlene Cockburn

(Kristin Chenoweth), has taken over as Queen Bee. Along with several other former high school victims who don't believe Amanda has grown up, Carlene is determined to drive her out of Texas using whatever means necessary.

While I didn't hate the show as much as I thought, I didn't have a complete change of heart from my earlier skepticism either. It's the type of show that you can only really watch at 3 a.m. after your brain has leaked out of your ears from doing physics problems for five hours. If you're looking for depth, you're not going to find it here. Everything feels extremely "blown up," by which I mean that the whole show feels like a stereotype of the south: big hair, avid church-goers, country music and, yes, cowboy boots.

Even the characters are over the top. For example, Carlene uses her giant telescope to spy on Amanda the moment her car pulls into the driveway. Sharon, Cricket and Heather, who make up the rest of Carlene's posse, spend a huge amount of time with Carlene trying to come up with ways

to find scandal in Amanda's life or otherwise embarrass Amanda until she leaves.

Really, don't these grown up women have anything else to do with their time?

The one thing that saved this show for me was, predictably, Chenoweth. I'd seen her in other comedic roles before (notably Olive Snook from the much too short-lived *Pushing Daisies*), and just like she did in 2007, she has an impeccable sense of comedic timing.

I don't know how she does it, but she manages to make almost every role she plays hilarious. It might be that she plays up her lack of height (at one point, she pulls out a stepstool to spy on Amanda from behind her curtains), or maybe it's how she can manage to sound sweet and bitchy at the exact same time.

And of course, by the end of the episode, she sings. You can't have Kristin Chenoweth in a show without making her sing at least once, though I wasn't expecting it until at least the second or third episode.

Compared to Chenoweth, Bibb's acting felt pretty boring. It wasn't bad, but it didn't have the same spunk and it didn't draw me into the story. Granted, Amanda is sup-

posed to be out of her element and exasperated at what is

going on around her, and she managed to convey that.

Also, by the end of the episode, Amanda basically stands up during church and, through a snarky prayer, tells everyone that she's not going to take this lying down, and Bibb's very serene, yet very sarcastic "prayer" shines in this scene and garnered some amusement.

Many people have been worried about watching this show because of the title, worried that it might be some underhanded way of making fun of Christians.

Honestly, I'd be more worried about this show making fun of the south, but really, it makes fun of neither Christians or the south. Rather, it's a show about utter hypocrisy and cruelty and just happens to take place in a Christian religion and set in Texas.

I don't know if that reassurance will belay anyone's fears about this show. As for me, I haven't decided if even Chenoweth can overcome the brainless mode I have to force myself to switch into in order to watch this show.

The next episode airs on Sunday at 10 p.m..

COURTESY OF ABC.COM
ABC's *GCB* fails to bring anything new or innovative to the airwaves.

The Shark Guys' comedic book fails to elicit laughter

By COLLEEN DORSEY
Staff Writer

If you demand several exploding whales in your humor books, then this book is not for you. If you demand several exploding whales in all of your books, then you're probably leading a very unsatisfying life. But if you're okay with just one exploding whale, then you've come to the right review.

Check out *Tastes Like Human: The Shark Guys' Book of Bitingly Funny Lists* by humorists Noel Boivin and

Christopher Lombardo.

The lists in this book are much like those found on Cracked.com, although Cracked is a little funnier and more polished. But the topics covered in this book are more diverse than on Cracked and not of the average I-could-learn-that-with-a-Google-search variety. (Google will not tell you why sharks are better than cats, but the Shark Guys will.) The lists are formed around ideas and features that display an unabashedly wacky approach to the world and

come in two types.

First there are real-life lists that take extreme pleasure in pointing out just how weird the world can get. Educate yourself about horny cult leaders and how karaoke can lead to throttlings. Then there are theoretical lists of ideas and observations: suggestions for PETA causes, an ATM etiquette guide and fighting tips sure to give you an edge over pesky muggers. It's likely a matter of personal taste, but the theoretical lists are generally the funniest.

Fiction is stranger than truth in this book, because it springs from two very strange heads. Lists are usually headed by an amusing introductory paragraph that sets the scene. Some of the headlines for listed items are also real gems — like in the list of reasons to keep found items, remember that The Person who Lost the Item Could be a Real Prick.

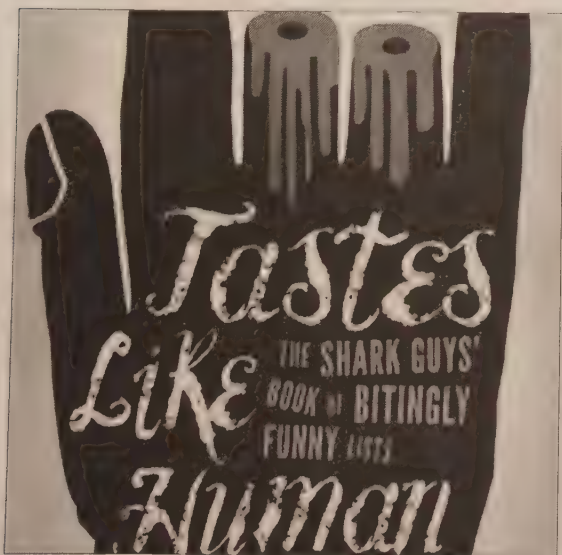
The book contains everything from tips for meeting the queen of England to a Kit-Kat Jesus. But it's still highly relevant to a college student. Take the very first list: "Top 8 Great Achievements in Sitting." What could be more inspiring for a few thousand students who spend hours on end hunched over textbooks?

Plus the authors give us their (quite astute) picks for the Top 10 Easiest College Majors, in case you're an underclassman who still has time to rethink that engineering degree.

The one flaw to the book is a pervasive tendency towards long sentences and long, awkwardly placed clauses. In the process of making a really good joke, the writers often get twisted around in their own words, which results in the reader losing grammatical track of the funny.

There's a lot going on in most sentences (except in lists with briefer items), so the reader never really gets a break — the words just keep piling up. But considering the nature of the book, the diction is not that big of a problem because you're likely to read it in bite-sized chunks anyway. Even the authors themselves say it's perfect for the bathroom. (You know you take your Kindle in there, don't deny it.)

The 95-page book (they're short pages) is only available digitally, for your Kindle for three bucks on Amazon, or in a printable version on smashwords.com. Plus check out the Shark Guys' website (www.thesharkguys.com) for a sampling of their humor.

COURTESY OF WWW.BARNESANDNOBLE.COM
The Shark Guys compile their thoughts and comments in their book.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Thoroughfare joins forces with B'more by Hand

Second coffeehouse event brings student groups together through artistic expression

THOROUGHFARE, FROM B3
Hip Hop Editor Ryan Kahn, who read his short story "The Donut Hole." The story follows the narrator as he tries to out-eat "Curly Fry" Carlos for the grand prize of a BMW.

What follows is donut hole carnage. Rife with wry remarks and off-beat humor, the reading was met with hushed laughter. With a conclusion like "Epic Dick, that was epic!" how can one not laugh?

Junior Vicky Plestis and Hilary Leithauser took the stage next.

They read selected prose and poetry from *Baltimore By Hand* as the authors — all elementary or middle school students — weren't in attendance. "Cursed," a short story written by 8th grader Terrell Kellam from Margaret Brent Middle School, made for the perfect opening salvo.

The level of his writing was truly incredible and could have passed for any Writing Seminars student's work. His use of repetition to create a disquieting, eerie atmosphere was particularly impressive.

Other *Baltimore By Hand* passages included "John Goes to Washington, D.C. with his Hippo, Nathan," by Barclay Elementary School's 4th grader Christian Pearson and "The One," by Barclay Elementary School's 4th grader Jasmine Nicole Harris.



COURTESY OF GEORGINA EDIONSERI
Baltimore By Hand, a group that values literary art specifically in Baltimore, joined *Thoroughfare* for the first time.

"John Goes to Washington, D.C." is a what-if scenario that perfectly captures the imagination of the young. His character John rides his "green rock-eating hippo, Nathan" through the space-time continuum after John tries to bargain with him, exchanging 100 rocks for a ride to D.C.

Harris's "The One" is infinitely more polished than material expected of a 4th grader. "The One" has a compelling flow to it, and even her slant rhymes are subtle and deliberate.

Despite its short length, the poem certainly shows Harris's promise as a future poet.

After brief break, sophomore Alessandra Bautze took the stage to read an excerpt of her story "Coming Back to Amelia." The portion she read was part of a larger story, which was not read that night.

Her story startled several of the audience members, and the expletive "son of a bitch!" garnered several surprised "ohs!" from the crowd.

"Coming Back to Amelia" will be coming out in

the spring *Thoroughfare* issue.

Hopkins alum Joshua Gleason, though not present, gave permission to show his short film Spotlight at the coffeehouse. The film was shot in black and white and focused on the movements of various ballet dancers, following the movement and lines created by their active bodies.

Every once in a while, the dancers would catch the camera's objective eye, creating a moment of tension between audience and the film's subject.

Junior Sophi Glazycheva concluded the evening's reading with her poem, "Steeping." Her abstract, lushly descriptive language painted a melancholic scene and made for a pleasant ending. "Steeping," like "Coming Back to Amelia," will be released in the spring edition.

Despite its relatively new presence on campus, *Thoroughfare* has made its coffeehouse a hub of artistic efforts, and their collaboration with *Baltimore by Hand* allows for not just Hopkins student work to be showcased. The broader Baltimore community, too, has the opportunity to express their artistic point of view.

Notley luxuriates in experimental poetry

NOTLEY, FROM B3
girls in the bushes, and cuttingly says, "You're just anyone, and that's the worst thing anyone can say."

The poem directly thereafter cuts to Leroy, and the one after that the Goddess of Mercy, until suddenly we are back with Marie. The various characters, and their respective poems, overlap at points at different times in their lives, which can be bewildering and by equal measure enthralling.

Notley moves on to a second volume, also published in 2011, *Songs and Stories of The Ghouls*. This proves to be more difficult to follow, and Notley just as before refused to give any context.

Despite this, Notley's wonderfully expressive delivery serves as a touchstone, guiding us through as it alternates widely in tempo and pitch. Before beginning *Songs and Stories of The Ghouls* for example, she asked for a moment to readjust her voice, hoping to capture the timbre of Bob Dylan. The intention of this collection of poems is to give voice to cultures left broken by triumphant enemies.

Stories blotted out by the triumphal narrative of the dominant, "The ghoul-ism of this project is affirmed by any style and there is no way forward

but your empire's way."

Notley references Carthage, wiped from the face of the ancient earth by the Romans. Another example of this is the role of women in society, represented by Medea, the lover and brains behind Jason of the Argonauts.

In the end she is tossed aside for the Corinthian king's daughter, but in revenge kills not only her, but also her two sons she bore with Jason. Medea is castigated forever after.

Sexist anecdotes from the life of Notley are also thrown in, poking thorny fun at the powerful men in the literary world she has encountered.

These poems cast our attention to the countless sometimes-nameless victims of genocide ancient and contemporary. The room for the poetry reading was full and mixed.

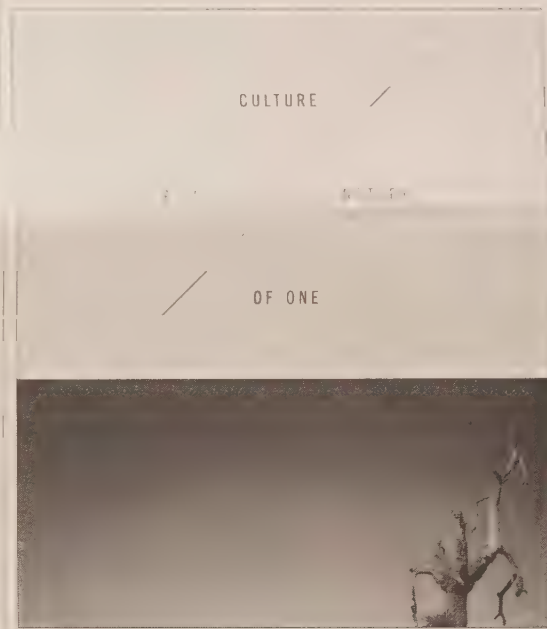
Some, stalwarts of The Writing Seminars department, others students mandated by their courses in that department, but also those just glad to catch Notley on her first reading at Johns Hopkins.

Though at times cast into rough open water, the powerful intent could be intuitively felt.

Hopefully Alice Notley will return, and take us once more into her delightfully and difficult work.



COURTESY OF GEORGINA EDIONSERI
Student artwork could be viewed at *Thoroughfare's* coffeehouse on Monday night at Nolan's.



COURTESY OF WWW.BOOKSELEERS.PENGUIN.COM
Poet Alice Notley read from her 2011 publication, *A Culture of One*.

Potiche examines the transformation of a housewife to a woman of political power

POTICHE, FROM B3
between her mother, father and husband, and questions of paternity arise.

A lover emerges from Suzanne's past to encourage her emancipation from misogyny, but in a poignant scene, deserts her when he finds out that he was just one of many suitors.

Many of *Potiche's* characters speak up for women's rights — at the start of the film, Joëlle accuses her mother of being a content and ignorant housewife — but betray their fears when it comes time to act. Director Ozon handles the intricacy of his characters skillfully, creating layers for the public, the self and the idealized self. "Ozon is a prolific and successful film director," Mason said, praising his repertoire of films.

"He's been as successful abroad as he's been at home. What distinguishes Ozon from most of the other directors whose films were shown last week is that his movies are more varied. He really kind of bounces around in terms of mood, plot and interest."

Ozon has shown that he can handle quiet, meditative films such as *Under the Sand* but also has fun with

witty, sassy comedies such as *8 Femmes* and *Potiche*. "What ties his films together is his foreground of strong female characters. He's really worked with some wonderful French actresses," Mason continued. Ozon is known for "drawing out the best qualities in his leading ladies."

Deneuve in *Potiche* is no exception, leaping gracefully from the shelf to the plush CEO armchair to the political podium. Her transformation is subtle but eventually an unstoppable force: one insight into the teeth beneath her skin quickly leads to another and another, until she triumphs in the face of her doubters. In a weaker film with a weaker actress, those triumphs would falter beneath our modernized, cynic gaze.

Ozon is said to have repeatedly asked himself while making the film, "How is this relevant today?" *Potiche* is a remake of a popular play from 1977, a pivotal era for women in France.

Although the play had a groundbreaking "sense of looking at the new world, a world in which politics are changing and ideas about women's roles are changing," according to Mason, transporting the

same story and drama to a 21st-century movie has its perils.

Ozon bridges the decades by not shying away from the problem. "He plays with the historical distance but also updates the film," Mason said.

"This movie just revels in aesthetic anachronism. It's full of the neon colors of the 1970s, there are lots of old French songs that evoke the period and the daughter has wildly blow-dried hair . . . There is a wallowing in the look of the '70s."

Potiche doesn't strive for an authentic immersion and instead dresses itself in the '70s as if donning

a costume. Ozon doesn't try too hard to evaporate the temporal distance. He embellishes and modernizes the actual storyline instead, making the son's sexuality ambiguous and inserting obvious references to Nicolas Sarkozy's campaign against Ségolène Royal for the French presidency in 2007.

In *Potiche*, Suzanne runs against the incumbent male MP in an added third act to the original play and visits a cheese factory on the campaign trail, a nod to Royal's emphasized support for goat cheese, which was from her native region.

The film frequently and hilariously depicts the left

against the right, in one scene simply by offering the choice to sit on a couch on one or the other side of the room.

Potiche is gratifying not just because of its witty leading lady, but because it follows the rise of the underdog. When Joëlle asks her mother if she is happy at the start of the film, Suzanne replies, "Of course I am. I made up my mind to be."

At the factory? Suzanne sympathizes with the workers and tells them that as her husband, Robert is her boss too, but conditions are even worse because she can't strike. It's this complicity that Suzanne finally rises from, both sexually and socially.

The light-heartedness of the film keeps the stakes from ever rising too high (even as the antagonist, Robert is more a caricature than a real threat; a balance held up by Fabrice Luchini's brilliant acting) and plays on a sense of private knowledge that pervades the film. Ozon and Suzanne always

seem to know more than they're letting on, and every time the viewer leans in to hear a secret, they lean back to giggle.

The audience on Monday night thoroughly enjoyed *Potiche*, which was a bounce back after Friday night's *Les chansons d'amour* (*Love Songs*), which viewers left with wrinkled eyebrows and a host of questions under their breaths. The audience for *Potiche* laughed out loud throughout, and there were audible murmurs of approval for Suzanne during some of her most exultant victories. The screening was attended by mostly graduate students, with a smattering of undergraduates, professors and local community members.

The Tournées Festival closes this Thursday with a screening of *Of Gods and Men*, a film that depicts the struggle of eight French Trappist monks against fundamentalist violence in an Algerian village.

It will be shown in French with English subtitles, and the screening will be followed by a panel discussion led by William Egginton and Kristin Cook-Gailloud, who are both from the Department of German and Romance Languages and Literatures.

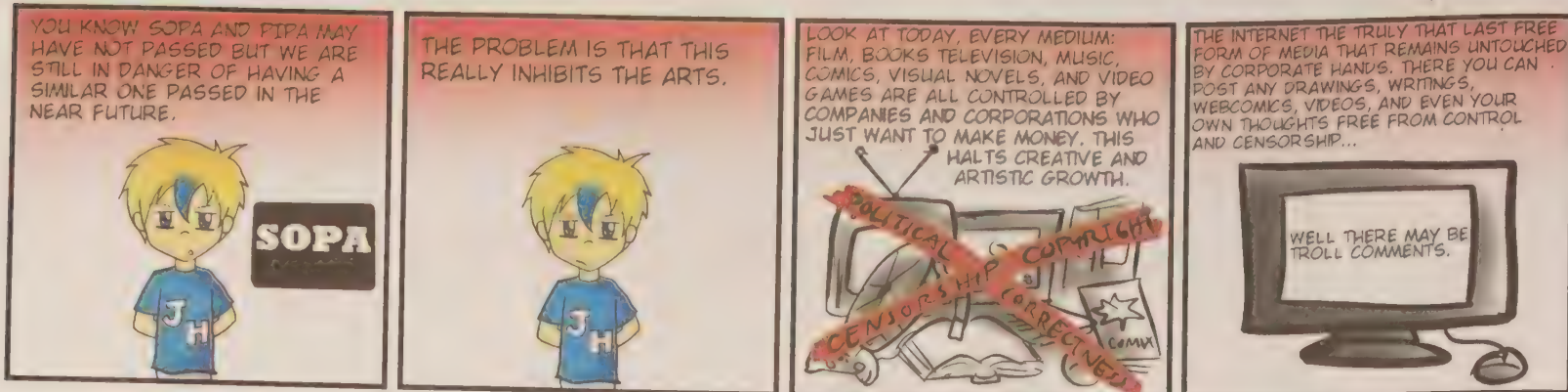


COURTESY OF WWW.MUSICBOXFILMS.ORG
Nadège and Maurice Babin discuss who will take over the umbrella factory.

CARTOONS, ETC.

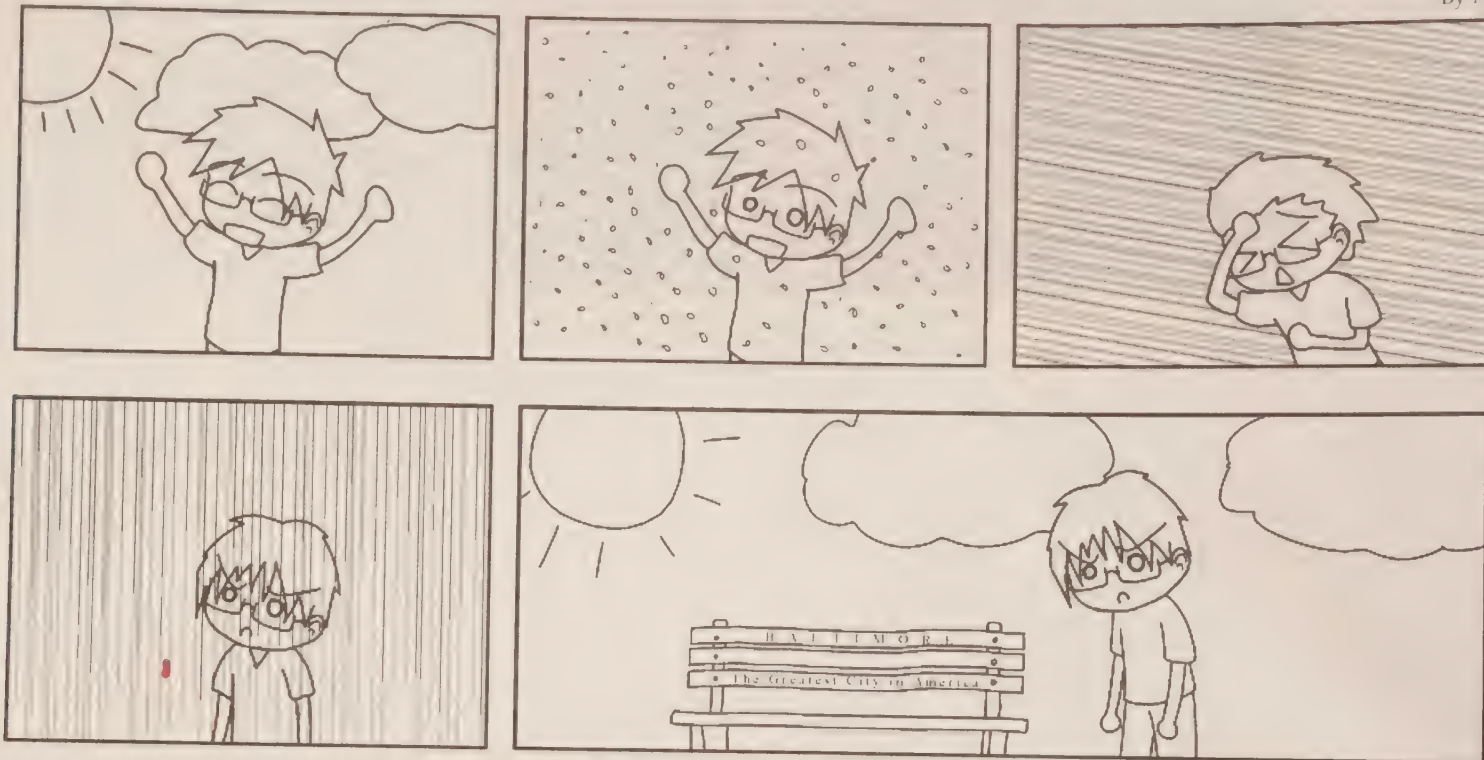
Blue Jay Brigade

By Kevin Stoll Li



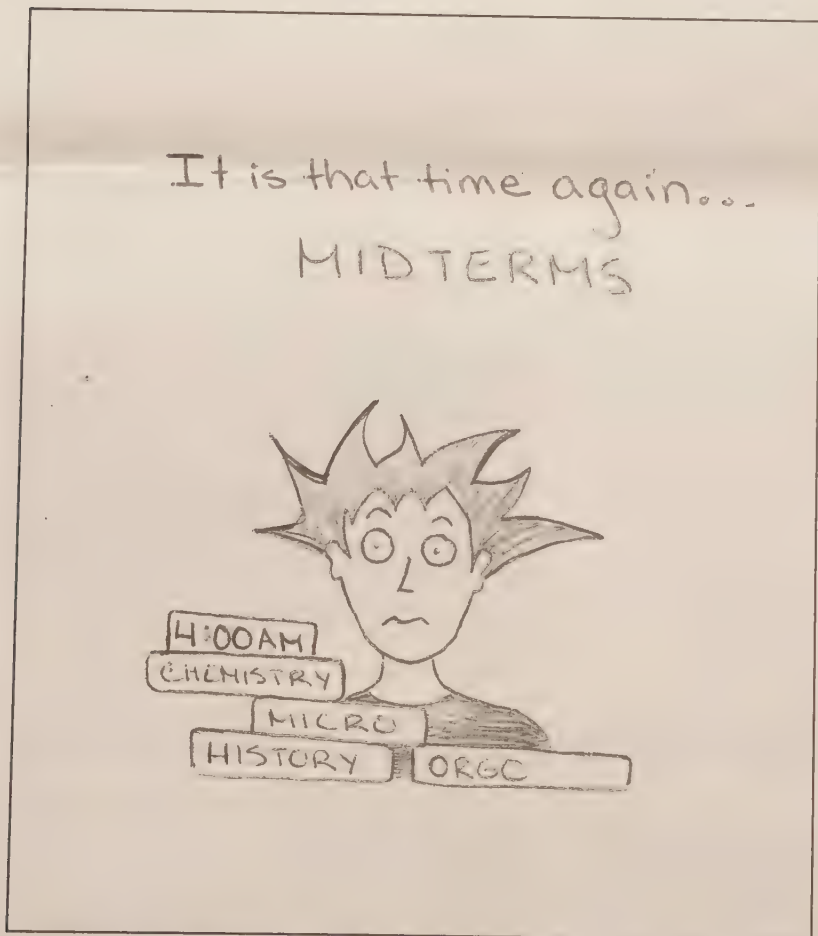
Greatest City in America

By A. Kwan



Midterms

By Katie Mann



Midterms at Hopkins

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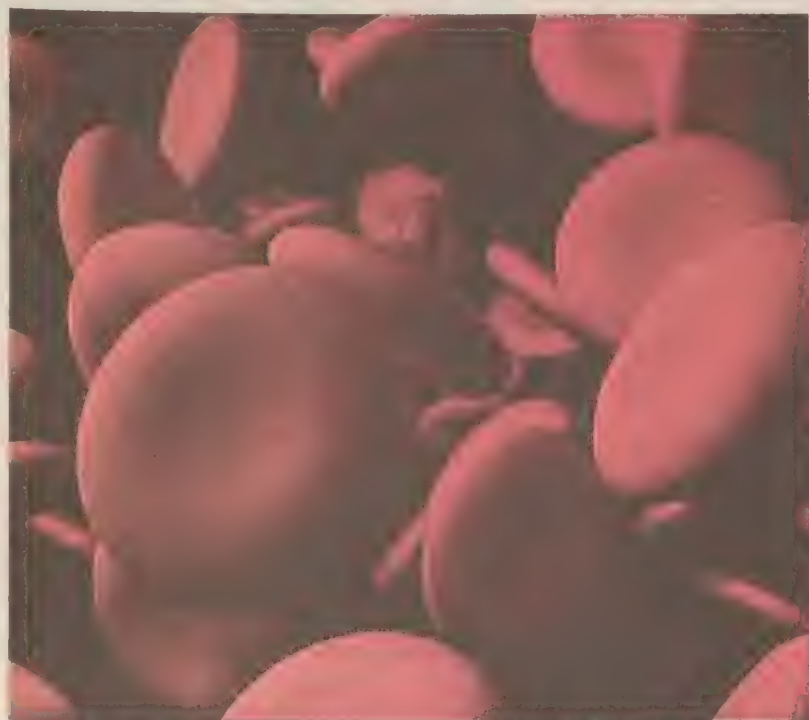
Two new and rare blood types identified Spiders appear larger to those who fear them

By ELLE PFEFFER
Staff Writer

Almost a decade has passed since a new blood group protein has been identified, but an international team of researchers has recently discovered two transport proteins on red blood cells. Labeled as ABCB6 and ABCG2, they are responsible for the rare Langereis and Junior blood types, respectively, and bring the total number of identified blood type proteins to 32.

The antigens for the Junior and Langereis blood types have been known for decades, but it was not until Lionel Arnaud of the French National Institute of Blood Transfusion (INTS) and his colleagues tested the gene sequence of these proteins that they were able to confirm that mutations in ABCB6 and ABCG2 caused these blood types to be expressed.

Given the rarity of the Langereis and Junior blood types, hospitals do not often encounter individuals who fall into these categories when administering blood transfusions. Several ethnic populations who do have the Langereis and Junior blood types have been at risk for blood transfusion complications. For example, over 50,000



Mutations on transport proteins of red blood cells cause the Langereis and Junior blood types to be expressed. COURTESY OF WWW.GALLERY.KATORLEGAZ.COM

people of Japanese descent are believed to be Junior negative.

Individuals who are Junior-negative were found to be homozygous for the ABCG2 null mutations, while those who are Langereis-negative are homozygous for the ABCB6 null mutation. A null mutation may prevent the forma-

tion of a functional protein product.

In identifying the ABCB6 and ABCG2 proteins, researchers have brought on a host of benefits, both expected and unexpected. "The greatest implication is transfusion security. Langereis and Junior-negative persons are very rare and hence it is

highly challenging to find them compatible blood when needed," Lionel Arnaud of the INTS in Paris wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Arnaud imagines that his team's findings will come into effect relatively soon, meaning that all blood units could be screened for the Langereis and Junior types. Additionally, it will be easier and quicker to identify patients with these blood groups who may need transfusion or who may be donors.

"In transfusion medicine, time is life!" Arnaud wrote. The ability to match blood types for transfusion also has major implications in the body's acceptance of an organ transplant.

Another major and much more surprising outcome of this research is associated with anti-cancer drug resistance. ABCG2, a multi-drug transporter protein, not only specifies the Junior blood type, but is also the breast cancer resistance protein. It is known as such because of its possible disruption of drugs used in chemotherapy.

"It was a dream to target/inhibit ABCG2 during chemotherapy to improve it, but one didn't know whether its physiological roles, essentially in [the] intestine or bone marrow, are essential. We showed that more [than] 50,000 Japanese live very happily without expressing ABCG2," Arnaud wrote. This demonstrates that ABCG2 is nonessential and may be targeted pharmacologically in anticancer drug therapy.

SEE BLOOD, PAGE B8

By MALI WIEDERKEHR
Science & Technology Editor

Ron Weasley's high-pitched squeals demonstrate all too well how the dire fear of spiders can manifest itself. Recent psychological research demonstrates that individuals who fear spiders tend to overestimate the size of these creatures and perceive them as physically larger than their actual size.

Researchers at Ohio State University recruited 57 people who self-identified as having a spider phobia and exposed them to tarantulas that were between one to six inches in size. The participants were instructed to approach an uncovered glass tank where the spiders were held, from a distance of 12 feet away.

Once at the tank, the participants guided a spider around the tank with a probe. During their first encounters with the spiders, the participants were given an eight-inch probe, but the size of the probe was gradually decreased as the eight-week study went on.

After each encounter with a spider, participants rated the fear they experienced on a scale of 0-100. They also described their fear of spiders, any symptoms of panic they felt during the interaction and thoughts about reducing fear during future interactions.

Perhaps most telling of the research's findings was a task in which participants had to draw a line indicating the size of the spider after the interaction was over and the tank was covered up. The line was supposed to measure the length from the tip of the spiders front to hind legs.

The results revealed that arachnophobic individu-

als tended to overestimate the size of the spiders, and that the greater the fear of the spider, the larger the subsequent line drawn. Remarkably, the most fearful subjects drew lines that were about 50 percent longer than the actual size of the spider they had encountered.

Furthermore, the experiment was repeated while the spiders were not covered up, and the participants still overestimated the size of the spiders. This shows that perception was actually altered for individuals experiencing arachnophobia.

Although a fear of spiders is not particularly life-changing, researchers are applying the findings of the study to more pertinent fears. For example, individuals who fear needles similarly perceive a needle to be larger than it actually is, which can lead to an interference with their health care. Another example is the fear of heights, in which individuals tend to perceive their distance from the ground to be larger than it is in reality.

Exposure therapy is one of the ways in which individuals suffering from phobias are treated. Although scientists are unaware of the scientific reasoning for this method's success, exposure therapy can cure phobias by gradually subjecting them to their fear; in this case subjects became less afraid after interacting with the spiders over the course of eight weeks.

Researchers are hoping to apply their understanding of fears from this study in order to benefit people suffering from fears that interfere with daily life. Their findings could potentially enhance treatment targeted at patients who experience altered perception due to a fear.



Arg! A spider to the face is an arachnophobian's worst nightmare. COURTESY OF WWW.RUPERTGRINTBIOGRAPHY.COM

Wickedly warm winter explained

By ALICE HUNG
Science & Technology Editor

With the coming of March, it seems safe to say that this year's winter is officially over. However, this statement leaves many wondering why most of North America didn't have to pull out the heavy jackets and electric snow plows, which typically make their appearance at least once per year. Jet streams and La Niña seem to hold the answer, as researchers suggest.

January of 2012 is the fourth warmest winter since 1895 in mainland U.S. Even December's temperature is considered above average. Unfortunately, the lack of cold weather did not promise good weather. The Midwest, for example, was plagued with tornadoes.

Aside from global warming potentially contributing to these recent temperatures, another contributing factor is the jet stream. Jet streams are air currents in Earth's atmosphere, just between the troposphere to the stratosphere, at approximately 17 to 20 km above sea level. Jet streams result from a combination of the planet's rotation and atmospheric heating.

Jet streams may form

when there are significant differences in temperature at the boundary of adjacent air masses. The temperature differences cause a pressure disparity, resulting in the generation of the currents.

The strongest jet streams are called polar jets. These are crucial in determining winter weather. During the winter, polar jets travel across the mid-latitudes. Normally, they divide the cold Arctic air from the warmer air, with the colder air towards the north and warmer south. This year, however, the jet streams seemed to have trapped the cold air farther north than previous years.

By doing so, the warmer air currents are subsequently pushed northwards as well, conveniently covering most of the United States. As a result, many of us are blessed with higher temperatures and a milder winter.

Fluctuations of the Northern Annular Mode, or Arctic Oscillation, can actually affect polar jet streams. These are hemispheric scale patterns that determine climate variability. When the mode is in the positive phase, for example, air pressure towards the north decreases, thus resulting in a stronger jet stream. A stronger jet

stream would in turn trap the cold air further north. In the negative phase, on the other hand, the jet weakens and causes much of the cold air to spread southward.

This winter, it seems that the mode was in the positive phase for the most part, accounting for the warm temperatures. Towards late January, however, the phase reversed, causing the cold temperature in Europe. The second shift since then, resulting in a stronger jet stream, seemed to have contributed to the tornadoes that struck many Midwest areas.

Aside from jet streams, La Niña is another factor contributing to this year's mild winters. La Niña is an ocean-atmospheric phenomenon that typically causes a wet mild summers in norther U.S. and droughts in the southeastern. The precipitation records this year have largely correlated with those predicted by the phenomenon.

Together, the polar jet streams and La Niña provide an explanation accounting for the bizarre winter encountered this year. Nonetheless, there is no doubt that the mild winters won't last, and eventually those snow plows will have to be dragged out again.



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Jet streams and La Niña both contribute to this year's mild winter, causing warmer temperatures than usual.

Drug treats Parkinson's in animal model

By MICHAEL YAMAKAWA
Staff Writer

A study by UCLA researchers was published on the online edition of *Neurotherapeutics* that reported the development of a novel drug that could break down harmful protein groups in Parkinson's disease. Known as the "molecular tweezer," the compound was able to degrade protein aggregates implicated in Parkinson's without interfering with brain activity in zebrafish. Parkinson's disease is a neurodegenerative disorder that affects the central nervous system, which is comprised of the brain and spinal cord. A neurodegenerative disorder is one that is caused by the death of a component of the nervous system. In the case of Par-

kinson's disease, cells in a part of our brain called the "substantia nigra" are killed.

These cells are responsible for producing a hormone called dopamine, which facilitates our control over our bodily movements. Parkinson's patients are typically characterized with uncontrolled, erratic bodily movements.

More than thirty known diseases, including Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and Type 2 diabetes are caused by an aggregation or "clumping" of proteins, which collectively become harmful to the body. In Parkinson's, the protein responsible for the onset of the disease is "alpha-synuclein," which is found in all Parkinson's patients. The aggregates of alpha-synuclein, called Lewy

bodies, ultimately kill the neurons in the brain that are responsible for dopamine production.

It is difficult to design drugs to target the aggregate of proteins, especially for Parkinson's, because alpha-synuclein is ubiquitous in the brain. However, the new drug that the UCLA study reported is called CLR01, which acts as a molecular tweezer to "tweeze" off alpha-synuclein units from their masses.

The compound is shaped like a C and wraps around groups of lysine, a type of amino acid with a positive charge found on many proteins. The researchers discovered that the molecular tweezers are able to isolate alpha-synuclein and prevent them from forming aggregates.

SEE PARKINSON'S, PAGE B8

New blood protein plays a role in cancer

BLOOD, FROM B7

The researchers also disproved many myths surrounding ABCB6, the porphyrin transporter gene and probable multidrug transporter that codes for the Langeris blood type. Scientists had previously thought that ABCB6 was important to hemoglobin production, but these experiments show that lack of ABCB6 is not fatal or related to anemia.

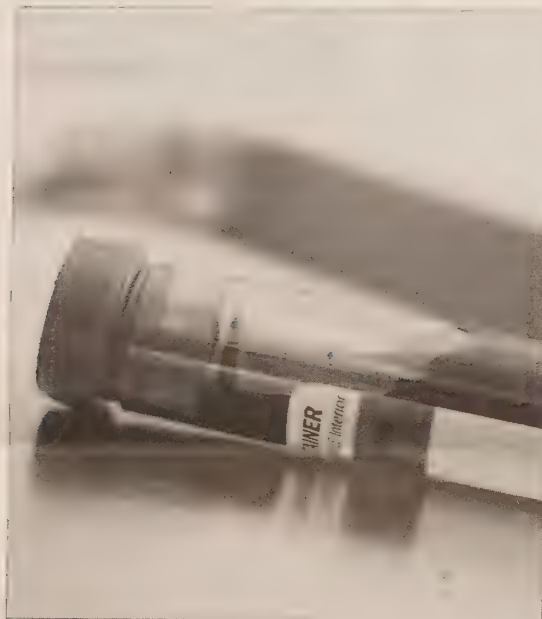
ABCB6 was also shown to exist beyond the mitochondria on the surface of hepatocellular cancer cells, which relates to its anti-cancer drug resistance. These more general results have implications for personalized medicine and anti-cancer drug resistance in the future.

There was another way in which this research was out of the ordinary. "Research is usually a competition between international teams, not an international collaboration as presented in the media. In our case, it was indeed an international collaboration," Arnaud wrote.

In fact, the research literally took place across the globe: researchers at Japanese Red Cross Blood Centers supplied the purified antibodies, Arnaud's team purified the matching proteins and later established the Langeris and Junior blood types' genetic bases, and Bryan Ballif of the University of Vermont used a mass spectrometer to identify the proteins.

Going forward, these international researchers will continue to search for more unknown blood types, estimating that there are still 10 to 15 that remain unidentified. Though these blood types are also rare, Arnaud argues that research of this kind can bring important results.

"It can be a waste of time to work on a 'rare' blood type, but you don't think so when you have this rare blood type (for your transfusion security) or when researchers coincidentally found important information about anti-cancer therapy or personalized medicine."



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New blood protein, ABCB6, shown to affect anti-cancer drug resistance.

By IAN YU
Managing Editor

If all goes well, a car-sized probe weighing in at a little over 1300 pounds is set to make an intimate exploration of the Sun's outer atmosphere by 2018. Scientists at the Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) have gotten the green light from NASA to move onto the next phase in designing the Solar Probe Plus.

With NASA's approval, APL scientists can continue to build upon the concepts from their preliminary work, moving on to the definition phase of the project. According to NASA's outline of a full mission life cycle, scientists will be working out schedules for their work, defining the requirements of the project, undergoing several review processes and ultimately preparing for the full design and development phase.

The project's major goals are to study important themes in the science of the sun, including the heating of the sun's corona and acceleration of the solar wind, as well as solar energy particles produced, altered and transported by the sun. Instruments aboard the Probe will collect data on the particles it encounters as it speeds through the corona, with protons, electrons and helium ions composing much of the solar wind. Specifically, the team leading this effort hopes to address why the sun's corona — its atmosphere — is so much hotter than its surface and what drives the solar wind permeating the solar system.

Among the aspects of the spacecraft that the APL scientists plan on testing include the resistance of exterior components to heat and dust, factors sure to play a major role in the survivability of the spacecraft as it orbits the sun. To protect against the intense conditions around the sun, the Solar Probe Plus will utilize a carbon-carbon



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Hopkins researchers are designing a probe that can withstand the heat of the sun long enough to orbit it 24 times.

composite heat shield that, along with the rest of the craft's exterior, needs to endure temperatures approaching 2,600 degrees Fahrenheit.

According to the project's website, the probe will orbit the sun 24 times as it approaches speeds of 125 miles per second, varying between roughly 68 million and 4 million miles from the sun's surface during the orbits.

While the idea of constructing a probe to study the sun in this close detail has been decades in the making, the farthest that a concept has gotten was a 2005 proposal from the APL prior to the current project.

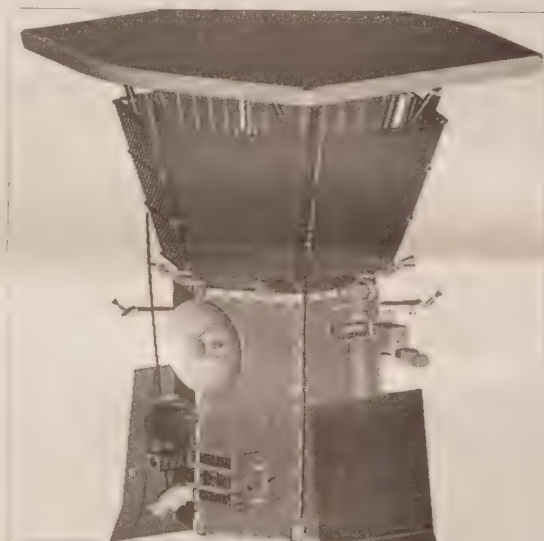
The 2005 solar probe would have utilized a plutonium-fueled radioisotope thermoelectric generator, a nuclear power source, but the costs associated with it had caused NASA to sideline the project. In 2007, NASA had tasked the APL with coming up with a lite version of the 2005 space probe, with-

out the nuclear fuel source and at a budget cap of \$750 million, giving birth to the Solar Probe Plus.

Preliminary designs for the probe give it a hexagonal design with respect to its cross section and a central propellant tank. While in space it will be powered primarily by the energy collected in its solar arrays, which can be extended or retracted based on the en-

ergy needs of the probe and its exposure to the sun. For the journey off of the Earth's surface, the probe will be mounted on an Atlas V551 rocket, one of the most powerful vehicles in NASA's fleet, with additional boost provided by a Star 48 kick motor.

APL scientists anticipate a launch window of 20 days between July 30 and Aug. 18, 2018.



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Scientists hope to launch a car-sized probe towards the sun in 2018.

Quantum states predicted with greater accuracy

By VIVEK SINANAN
Staff Writer

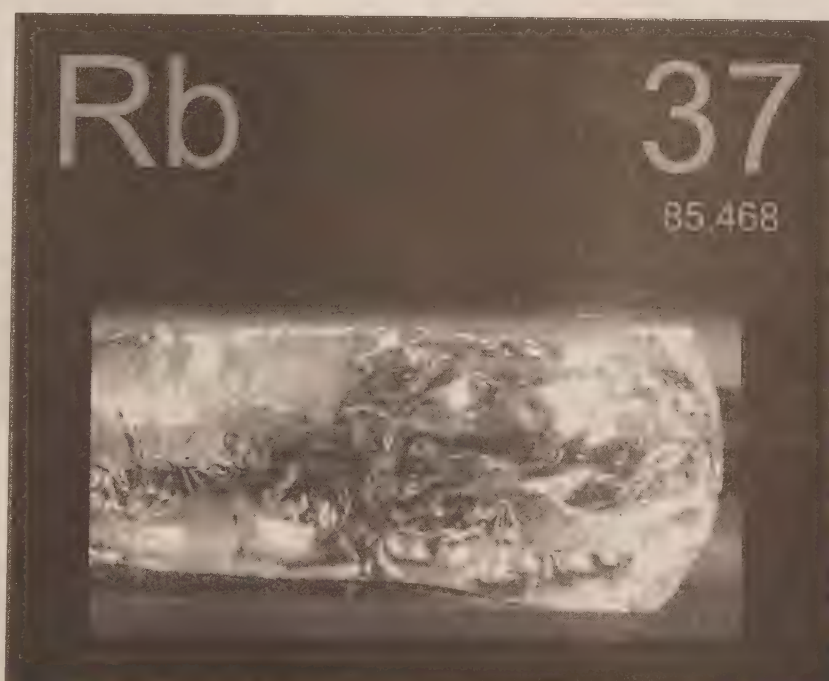
Scientists at the Georgia Institute of Technology have applied a process called "squeezing" to one of the smallest building blocks of matter in an attempt to fully understand the nature of atoms.

The Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle is a theory in quantum mechanics that says that the measurements of the position and the momentum of an object cannot be simultaneously known within the same degree of certainty.

Therefore, there must be some uncertainty in either the specific location or the specific momentum of an object when they are both being calculated. This uncertainty is usually depicted using a circular graph, such that as the uncertainty in one measurement decreases, the uncertainty in the other increases, and vice versa.

Squeezing is a process of manipulating the graph of uncertainty for measurements, such as those defined by the Heisenberg Principle. The circle is "squeezed" from one direction to form an ellipse, effectively decreasing the range of uncertainty for one calculation, while increasing the range of the other.

Since the area inside the ellipse is the same as that inside the circle, no fundamental change has occurred, only there is now an improved accuracy in measuring one of the prop-



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Scientists use the "squeezing" method to characterize rubidium atoms with greater accuracy than before.

erties of the principle.

Squeezing has been used in the past to measure the properties of microscopic particles, such as atoms and photons, the quantifiable particles of light used in quantum mechanics. It has also been used to increase the accuracy of machines, such as atomic clocks and the magnets essential to the proper functioning of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in medicine.

At Georgia Tech, squeezing has been applied to the nematic tensor, a particle used to describe the rubidium atoms in Bose-Einstein condensates (BECs). BECs are a state of matter created by the ex-

posure of a gas to very low temperature close to absolute zero, the theoretically lowest temperature possible.

Under such conditions, the atoms' properties change such that their quantum mechanical properties, which are usually only occurring microscopically, become observable on a macroscopic scale.

For years, scientists have been squeezing atoms to the point that their quantum identity can now be defined by two states. The BEC states have been squeezed into three quantum states, an unhelpful number. But at Georgia Tech, scientists have been

working on squeezing the quantum states so that atoms can only be defined in one way, by the nematic tensor.

The squeezing is done experimentally by entangling some of the BEC atoms by a process of colliding 40,000 of them. The collision allows the entanglement in which the quantum state of one atom facilitates a similar quantum state in the other entangled atoms. This, therefore, facilitates the squeezing.

This reduction in uncertainty in the ability to measure the quantum state of atoms can have important implications in the measurement of magnetic fields.

New drug destroys protein clumps in brain

PARKINSON'S, FROM B7

The isolated proteins are harmless to the brain's neurons.

Surprisingly, CLR01, which has the ability to bind to many different compounds, was able to undergo process-specific mechanisms to specifically bind to alpha-synuclein. No other proteins in the brain were affected, making CLR01 a very attractive option with which to perform further research, as it avoids complications of side effects.

After using cell cultures to test CLR01

effectiveness, animal models were used to further legitimize the drug usage. Zebrafish were chosen as animal models because they are easy to genetically manipulate, they develop rapidly, and are transparent, allowing for easier observation. CLR01 demonstrated effectiveness in preventing aggregation of alpha-synuclein, eventually stopping the progression of Parkinson's in the transgenic zebrafish.

In a previous study by UCLA researchers, CLR01

was found to have profound therapeutic effects on two brain lesions in Alzheimer's patients, the amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles.

CLR01 was able to block amyloid beta proteins from aggregating, which inhibited the development of amyloid plaques, the known culprit of causing Alzheimer's. Additionally, the compound blocked tau

proteins from aggregating into neurofibrillary tangles, another deposit of proteins that is known to lead to Alzheimer's. The effects of CLR01 were particularly concentrated in the hippocampus

of the brain, where our storage of memories resides.

No treatment has been found for Parkinson's patients. Although drugs can alleviate symptoms, nothing has been effective towards slowing the progression of the disease.

However, CLR01, which showed no side effects, has promising results for prospective drugs that can be administered for Parkinson's patients. A mouse model study is now underway for further research.

No other proteins in the brain were affected, making CLR01 a very attractive option



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New technology revolutionizes shipping and allows smaller cities to compete with well-established ports.

Robot cranes may improve trading

By ERICK SUN
Sports Editor

The technology placed into giving football fans sky-cam views of their favorite NFL teams could one day offer another method by which cargo could be transported across the globe.

Currently, ships make about 500 million trips back-and-forth across the seas moving all forms of trade between nations, landing in major port cities that have the fortune of being able to accommodate the hundreds of ships coming and going each day. But if a vision by U.S. entrepreneur Jeremy Wiley comes to fruition, even the smallest of coastal cities will be able to compete with major ports without even building a harbor.

Wiley's idea is to build a network of "robot cranes" extending into the sky, supported by giant balloons. These cranes would look like giant, hollow pyramids with four tethers leading from the cen-

tral balloon and planting in some port city. Within the pyramid would be four more tethers acting as the dynamic means of transporting cargo from an offshore ship to a coastal town or city, without the need of a port.

By adjusting the lengths of the four tethers within the pyramid, cargo could be picked up and transported to anywhere within the crane pyramid.

The concept creates a new mechanism for transporting goods, allowing alternative methods of transport in the case of shipping gridlock, or giving the U.S. Navy and Marines a quicker way to transport supplies.

But perhaps, most importantly, Wiley's device, dubbed "Tethered Air", would revolutionize the economics of shipping. This invention would prove a great opportunity for smaller cities to become more viable trading ports and compete with larger, better-established ports.

The idea was formed

when Wiley was a U.S. Marine unloading ships in Kuwait during the Iraq War effort. He later discovered that Canadian loggers had thought of using balloons and cables to move felled trees, but the effort eventually fell apart due to a lack of technology.

However, with the advances in modern robotics, Wiley believes his idea can work. Like the cameras at NFL games, the cable robotics would allow for quick and efficient changes in tether length, except at a massive scale.

Wiley estimates that a demonstration of his idea would cost around \$30,000, and a complete setup would be around \$7 million to \$10 million. While it may sound expensive, compared with the \$20 million the U.S. Navy and Marine Corp recently spent on building a pier to reach Haiti after the 2010 earthquake, Tethered Air looks like a much cheaper means for humanitarian aid.

Beware of the T. Rex chomp action

By MELANIE HSU
Staff Writer

Ever since its discovery in 1905, the infamous *Tyrannosaurus rex* has attained a celebrity status that is unique among dinosaurs. While larger and more ruthless dinosaurs have since been discovered, *T. rex* and his famished companions, the *Allosaurus* and *Velociraptor*, continue to secure leading roles in films such as *Jurassic Park*, *Night of the Museum* and *Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs*.

Contrary to what most might think, however, *T. rex*'s image is far from overhyped; recent research from the University of Liverpool suggests that the tyrant lizard has the strongest bite of any terrestrial animal to ever walk this planet.

While paleontologists have long disputed *T. rex*'s status as an apex predator, arguing that the *T. rex* was just a lowly scavenger, there is little question that the tyrant lizard could snack on humans. *T. rex*'s crushing bite would probably earn it a Guinness World Record under "most dangerous animal to ever roam the Earth." Interestingly, the study indicates that *T. rex*'s bite strength changes during its lifetime, an adaptation that most likely led to reduced competition between parents and offspring.

Karl Bates and colleagues found that younger *T. rex* dinosaurs had significantly weaker bites, which probably indicates that they used their fearsome bite less often than their older companions. This sheltered *T. rex* youngsters from the pressure of competing against their stronger fathers.

To test the dinosaur's bite strength, the researchers created a model of *T. rex*'s skull by digitally scanning skulls from an adult and juvenile *T. rex*, an *Allosaurus*, an alligator and an adult human. Their estimate of *T. rex*'s bite strength exceeded those of previous studies, which used skeletal models to create tooth indentations that matched those on the fossils of *T. rex*'s unfortunate victims.

Using the computer models, Bates and his team simulated *T. rex*'s bite in a way that allowed

them to directly measure its impressive force and speed. Amazingly, the force exerted by just one razor-sharp tooth was an estimated 7,868 to 12,814 pounds. For all you physicists, that's somewhere along the line of 35,000 and 57,000 newtons. Talk about a large F!

The force of a *T. rex* bite is equivalent to having a medium-sized elephant sit on you. In other words, if you ever want a hands-on experience of what a *T. rex*'s bite feels like, consider ticking off an African elephant on your next safari trip.

T. rex's skull shape allowed ample room for chewing muscles, enabling a powerful bite that justifies the tyrant's reputation as one of the most fearsome reptiles in dinosaur history.

However, *T. rex* might fall short if the aquatic arena is considered. According to the researchers, it is possible that the shark *Megalodon* had an even stronger bite. This colossal predator puts great white sharks and perhaps even *T. rex* to shame with a maximum bite force of around 20 tons. If the theories are true, then a movie about *Megalodon* could make *Jurassic Park* and *Piranha* look like Disney movies.

Nowadays, it is quite difficult to imagine the actual impact of a dinosaur bite. Evolutionary trends have led to reductions in body

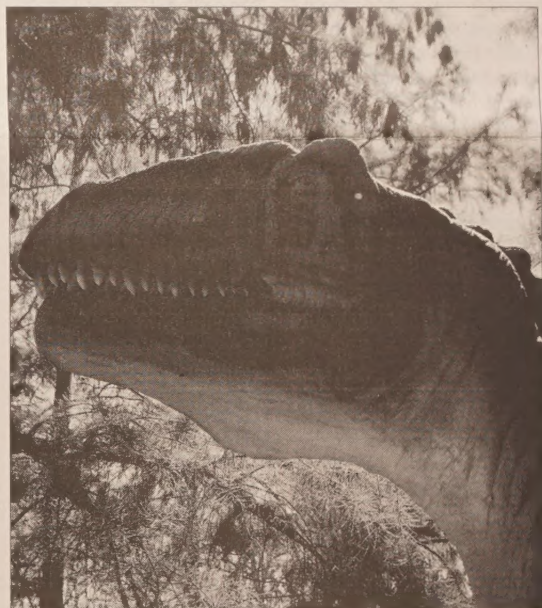
size for many animals, and the dinosaurs' untimely extinction has proved to be quite constraining for the imagination. According to Peter Falkingham of the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom, the true strength of the *T. rex* can be comprehended by looking at the comparatively lower bite strengths of the lion and alligator. Considering the amount of meat these modern predators can tear through, it is not hard to image the *T. rex* crushing large bones.

Clearly, *T. rex* would have needed some sort of bite guard to stop its skull from breaking during a serious snacking session. Indeed, past studies have shown that the dinosaur's

fused nasal bones enhanced its tremendous bite force while serving as a skull protector. Even when Falkingham and colleagues scaled the models for differences in body size, the adult *T. rex* was found to have a much stronger bite than its juvenile counterparts.

Juvenile *T. rex* dinosaurs may have compensated for their lower jaw strengths with their increased athletic ability and proportionally longer arms. These differences indicate that the dinosaur's diet likely changed over time, allowing the *T. rex* to become a growing threat as it matured. Aren't you glad that dinosaurs are extinct?

Melanie Hsu
Animal Antics



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New findings about *T. Rex* suggest stronger bite than previously thought.

This Week in Chemistry History

— **Mar. 4, 1947:** Radiocarbon dating, which is used to estimate the age of materials containing carbon, was developed by Willard Libby and his co-workers.

— **Mar. 5, 1823:** Chlorine gas is first liquefied by Michael Faraday.

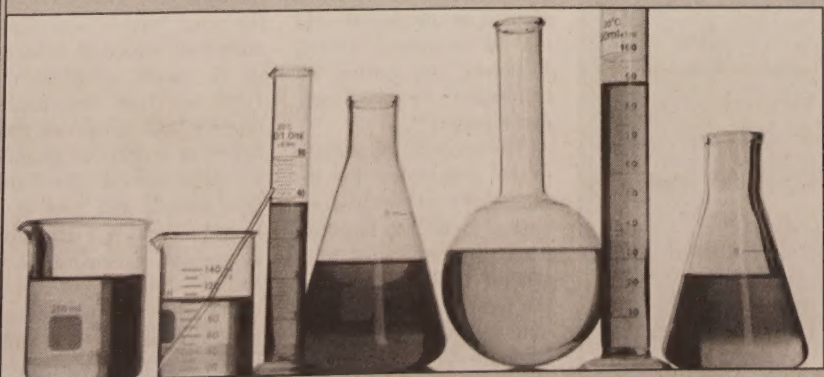
— **Mar. 6, 1869:** A paper containing the very first version of the period table of elements is presented to the Russian chemical society. The author is Dmitri Mendeleev, a Russian-born chemist and inventor.

— **Mar. 7, 1911:** Ernest Rutherford pitches a theory to the Royal Society claiming that atoms contain electrons around their nucleus.

— **Mar. 8, 1775:** An experiment conducted by Joseph Priestley finds that mice who breathe oxygen live longer than mice breathing an equivalent volume of regular air.

— **Mar. 9, 1923:** Birth date of Walter Kohn, who won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for coming up with the density functional theory for molecular quantum properties. This theory helps describe the electronic structure of molecules, especially in the ground state.

— **Mar. 10, 1764:** Jeremias Richter was born, and later developed the concept of stoichiometry, or balancing chemical reactions.



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Modification affects cells' energy supply

By VARUN PATEL
Staff Writer

For every cell in our body, allocation of proper energy supply is very important. Lack of it could lead to fatal outcomes, such as death or cancer. Adenosine monophosphate-activated protein kinase, also known as AMPK, plays a critical role in maintaining cellular energy homeostasis.

The functional enzyme is composed of three subunits, which are conserved from yeast to humans. It is found in liver, brain and skeletal muscles.

A recent study done at Hopkins reveals that AMPK plays an important role in determining whether cells will store or use their energy reserves. It was discovered that the opposing catalytic activities of deacetylases HDAC1 and acetyltransferase p300 control the activity of AMPK.

According to the study, acetylation — addition of acetyl functional group — of many non-histone proteins involved in chromatin, metabolism or cytoskeleton regulation have previously been identified. However, the correspond-

ing enzymes and substrate-specific functions of the modifications are still unclear.

This study took first step in identifying proteins involved in that process of acetylation and deacetylation. In this study, authors tried to identify the functional specificity of 12 critical human deacetylases. One of those deacetylases, HDAC1 was discovered to be very important for this mechanism.

In the study, authors confirmed that deacetylation of AMPK leads to AMPK phosphorylation and activation by the upstream kinase LKB1 resulting in lipid breakdown in human liver cells. This means that deacetylation of AMPK activates it and cells use its reserved energy.

The exact opposite happens with the acetylation of AMPK by p300. With the flow of decent energy, AMPK is turned off and

cell starts to store energy in the form of sugar or fat for future use.

According to the authors of this study, findings provided new insights into previously underappreciated metabolic regulatory roles of HDAC1.

The whole purpose of this study was to understand the role various deacetylases played in the regulation of cellular homeostasis. Recently, deacetylase inhibitors have been increasingly used for the treatment of cancer and neurodegenerative diseases and also the generation of induced pluripotent stem cells.

Thus, it becomes critical to understand the molecular mechanism of these enzymes. In the future, authors hope to study the enzyme-substrate relationships of other deacetylases and try to understand the mechanisms underlying deacetylase inhibitor activities.

Findings provided new insights into previously underappreciated metabolic regulatory roles of HDAC1.

SPORTS

Men's Lax rides strong defense to 5-0 start

By KEVIN JOYCE
Staff Writer

The second-ranked men's lacrosse team held off a late surge by the 12th-ranked Princeton Tigers on Friday, besting them 10-8, before shutting out Manhattan at home, on Tuesday, 11-0. Hopkins remains unbeaten and improved their record to 5-0. Hopkins has now won 12 straight regular season games dating back to last year.

Against their Ivy League foe, the Jays held a relatively comfortable lead late in the game, despite Tiger advantages in shots taken, 36-to-29, and ground balls won, 31-to-24.

The Jays scored 10 goals on the strength of a balanced attack with eight Hopkins players notching scores on the day. Senior midfielder Mark Goodrich and junior attackman John Kaestner stood out, tallying two goals apiece.

Kaestner was making his first career start after starting attackman Wells Stanwick was lost to injury.

Part way through the first quarter, a Hopkins penalty gave the Tigers an extra-man opportunity. Junior Tucker Shanley took advantage of it, finding the net for his fifth goal of the season. The Jays responded, however, firing off three unanswered goals. Goodrich set the tone with a quick-stick, no hesitation goal off a dish from junior attackman Zach Palmer.

Soon after, Palmer got in on the scoring himself, notching an 18-footer to the back of the net. Sophomore midfielder Rob Guida then added his third goal of the season to extend the Blue Jay lead to 3-1.

Just eight minutes after Princeton had scored its first goal of the game, Hopkins roared back to take a two-goal advantage that they would not relinquish.

Princeton whittled the score to a one goal game with just 15 seconds remaining in the first quarter, as junior Jeff Froccaro squeezed one past junior goalie Pierce Bassett on what was the last shot for the Tigers in the first half.

The second quarter remained scoreless until just less than five minutes remained in the half. Palmer notched his second assist on a goal from junior midfielder John Greeley. Fellow junior midfielder John Ranagan would cap the Jays' first half scoring with a score at the 2:03 mark.

The Hopkins defense

absolutely stifled the Tigers' attack in the second quarter, holding them to zero shot attempts, as the Jays went into halftime with a 5-2 advantage.

Goodrich continued his strong showing with an unassisted eight-yarder midway through the third quarter to give the Jays a four-goal lead, 6-2. Princeton answered with two straight goals in the final five minutes of the quarter, one from junior Forest Sonnenfeldt and the other

a minute later.

For the next 60 seconds, though, the Hopkins defense remained steadfast to seal the impressive victory — their first over a ranked opponent this year.

On Tuesday, the Blue Jays hoped to continue their winning streak and keep their perfect record intact, as they returned home to face the Jaspers of Manhattan.

Against the Jaspers, Hopkins' perfect record looked to be in jeopardy

depth chart, the junior was forced to start after senior Chris Boland and freshman Wells Stanwick were lost to injury earlier in the year.

The story of the day was the play of the defense. While Bassett seemed to struggle with the Princeton shooters on Friday, giving up a season high eight goals, Tuesday's game against the Jaspers was an entirely different story.

With the help of a total team defensive effort, Bassett stopped all seven shots he faced while the Blue Jays as a team allowed only 14 shots total.

All told, the 11-0 win was the team's first shut-out since 1988, a 9-0 victory against Princeton.

Coincidentally, current head coach Dave Pietramala and associate head coach Bill Dwan were both members of that 1988 squad.

Hopkins will return to action this Saturday at M&T Bank Stadium, home of the Baltimore Ravens, in the Konica Minolta Face-Off Classic. The sixth annual Inner Harbor classic will feature some of college lacrosse's top squads and will conclude with Hopkins' 4 PM match with UMBC. The matches preceding the Blue Jays': at 11 AM, Princeton will take on the eighth-ranked Tar Heels of North Carolina, and at 1:30 PM, top-ranked Virginia and third-ranked Cornell will clash.

The Jays will next be on Homewood Field the following Saturday, Mar. 17th, against sixth-ranked Syracuse in what should be one of Hopkins' toughest tests of the year.



COURTESY OF DANIEL LITWIN
The Hopkins midfield stepped up this week, scoring 14 of the Blue Jays' 21 goals.

from senior Mike Grossman with just seven seconds left in the period.

Kaestner ignited the fourth quarter Hopkins offense with an impossibly angled score from behind the goal to give the Jays a 7-4 lead with just under 13 minutes remaining. Tiger senior Alex Capretta responded three minutes later with a score of his own to keep the Hopkins lead at two, but the Jays answered with three shots past Princeton senior goalie Tyler Fiorito to give Hopkins a 10-5 lead with 6:38 left on the clock.

The first of these goals came on a rocket shot from sophomore attackman Brandon Benn from the high slot to extend the lead to three goals. The second was tallied just a minute-and-a-half later, with Kaestner recording his second score of the game off of a short drop-off from Ranagan.

Junior attackman Lee Coppersmith found the top corner of the net off of Palmer's third and final assist of the day to finish the Hopkins scoring fest.

Princeton attempted a comeback in the closing minutes of the game, as Froccaro scored again with six minutes left to cut the lead to four goals. A huge save by Bassett highlighted the tense and scoreless next four minutes, however, stopping the Tigers from clawing their way back in the game.

Still, Princeton's relentless rally continued. Grossman netted one more with two minutes left on the clock, and sophomore Tom Schrieber juiced through the defense to find the net

as Manhattan managed to shut down the Blue Jay offense for the first 11 minutes to the tune of a 0-0 tie.

However, at the 11:35 mark, Guida opened the floodgates with his fourth goal of the season to give Hopkins a 1-0 lead. From there, two goals by Greeley and goals from Kaestner and junior midfielder Lee Coppersmith in the final two minutes of the first quarter put the Blue Jays ahead 5-0.

The rest of the game played out much like the first, with spurts of offense from the Blue Jays intermixed with periods of scoring droughts.

Two Hopkins goals in the second, followed by four in the third and a scoreless fourth brought the final score to an 11-0 Blue Jays victory.

By game's end, Greeley had picked up his second career hat-trick, while fellow first-line midfielder Ranagan tallied a goal and an assist for two points.

After a slow start to the season, the highly touted midfield unit finally produced points in the last two games. While the group managed only 11 goals in the team's first three games, against Princeton and Manhattan the midfielders broke through with 14 of the teams 21 goals, carrying an offense that recently suffered a string of injuries to several key players.

At the attack position, Kaestner once again shined in only his second career start, recording a goal and an assist. Despite being the fifth attackman on the



FILE PHOTO
W. Basketball advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament.

Jays end great year at hands of Jumbos

Women's Basketball finishes 24-5

By JARED FRYDMAN
Staff Writer

The Hopkins women's basketball team opened play in the annual NCAA Division III playoff tournament on Friday, Mar. 2nd. The Blue Jays travelled to Medford, MA to take on first round opponent, University of New England. In a game that came down to the final seconds, the Lady Jays held off the Nor'easters and advanced to the second round of the tournament. Unfortunately, Hopkins ran into a wall the next night, as a heartfelt second round game was lost to Tufts University.

In the first round game, Hopkins took an early lead, jumping out to a 21-9 advantage over the University of New England early in the first quarter. Throughout the first half the Nor'easters clawed back into the game, holding off the Blue Jay scoring attack and going on an 8-0 run of their own, making the score 21-17 with seven minutes remaining in the first half. Senior point guard Stephanie Fong led her Lady Jays in a game that would become hard-nosed and physical. Hopkins regained their composure and ended the scoring drought, adding six more points before half and heading into the locker room with a 27-20 advantage.

Fong played 37 minutes for the Blue Jays, quarterbacking her team and establishing her role as a game manager, compiling six points, five assists, a block and one steal. Fong's well-rounded game was complemented by her teammate, junior forward Alex Vasilla, as she added a tenth double-double to her season, totaling 15 points and 11 rebounds. Senior guard Chantel Mattiola was one of the most integral pieces to the Hopkins offense, as she played hard for 38 minutes, scoring 10 points, and getting her teammates involved with seven assists.

The second half seemed to be dominated by the Blue Jays. Hopkins extended its lead to 11 points three different times in the second half, controlling the tempo and flow of the game. New England slowly began to chip away, scoring eight consecutive points to

narrow the lead to three points, 45-42, with just over five minutes to play in the game. The final four minutes would be a defensive battle, as a one-point Hopkins lead was extended to four with a three-point play from Vasilla with only three minutes remaining. The Nor'easters once again cut the lead to one point, and regained possession with just 23 seconds on the clock. A possession was set up for New England to take the last shot of the game, and the ball was taken to the basket for a buzzer-beating attempt. As the ball was released by Nor'easter point guard Kari Pelletier, the hand of Vasilla swatted away the final attempt, and Hopkins regained possession with two seconds. An intense and hard fought battle advanced the Blue Jays to the second round of the NCAA tournament.

The very next day the Lady Jays went back to work, this time facing off with the Tufts University Jumbos. Tufts set the tone in the first half, opening up a 29-19 lead at halftime. The intensity was lacking for the Blue Jays, and they could not figure out how to stop Tufts on the defensive side of the court. Once again Fong and Mattiola led the way, scoring 14 and 13 points respectively. The Jumbos shut down Vasilla, a rare sight for the Blue Jay faithful, as she totaled only three points but added nine rebounds.

As the second half opened, a spark was seen in the Blue Jays' attack. Realizing the season was on the line, Hopkins began staging a comeback. The half opened with a 12-4 run, as the score was suddenly tied at 33 with 11 minutes on the clock. From that point Tufts' lead began to grow, and the season started slipping away from the Blue Jays' grasp. When the final buzzer sounded Tufts had extended its lead to 14 points, eliminating Hopkins from the tournament and crushing the hopes of a national championship season. The Blue Jays should not feel defeated after an extremely successful season, a 24-5 record and Centennial Conference powerhouse, the Hopkins Blue Jays look to remain a national force in the coming years.

BLUE JAY SPORTS SCOREBOARD

Women's B-Ball <i>Mar. 2, 2012</i> New England vs. Hopkins W, 53-51	Women's B-Ball <i>Mar. 3, 2012</i> Tufts vs. Hopkins L, 46-55	Women's Lacrosse <i>Mar. 3, 2012</i> Stony Brook @ Hopkins L, 14-15 <i>Mar. 7, 2012</i> Towson @ Hopkins W, 5-4	Men's Lacrosse <i>Mar. 2, 2012</i> Princeton vs. Hopkins W, 10-8 <i>Mar. 6, 2012</i> Manhattan @ Hopkins W, 11-0
Baseball <i>Mar. 1, 2012</i> Messiah @ Hopkins L, 4-6 <i>Mar. 4, 2012</i> Rutgers-Newark @ Hopkins W, 5-4	Baseball <i>Mar. 6, 2012</i> Rowan vs. Hopkins L, 3-9 <i>Mar. 7, 2012</i> York vs. Hopkins W, 8-5	Women's Tennis <i>Mar. 2, 2012</i> Washington and Lee vs. Hopkins L, 4-5	Women's Tennis <i>Mar. 3, 2012</i> Chicago vs. Hopkins L, 3-6 <i>Mar. 3, 2012</i> Denison vs. Hopkins W, 5-1

SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK CHANTEL MATTIOLA

By **ASHLEY MILLETTE**
Staff Writer

As any Hopkins affiliate knows, the academics at JHU are rigorous, intensive and time consuming. It would not be an exaggeration to say that a typical daily schedule comprises of sleeping, eating, studying and then repeating the aforementioned activities (sometimes without the sleep).

That's why participating in extracurriculars and social activities here is not an easy undertaking. Varsity sports, in particular, present a monumental challenge to those who wish to not only excel in their given sport but also in academics. Chantel Mattiola, currently in her senior year at Hopkins, manages to not only pursue both a major and a minor but also to serve as a co-captain on the women's basketball team.

With four outstanding seasons as a Blue Jay under her belt, Mattiola has been named *The News-Letter's* Athlete of the Week. Mattiola co-captained the Lady Jays to a 24-5 overall record and regular season Centennial Conference title. In addition, Mattiola led the Jays in points per game with 12.3 and was also the team leader in free throws made and three-pointers made. Mattiola made 53 shots from behind the arc this winter, good for an astounding 65 percent of the team's total tre-balls.

In the NCAA tournament, in which Hopkins

advanced to with an at-large bid for the second consecutive year, Mattiola scored 10 points in the first-round against the University of New England. She also drained 13 in the Jays' final game of the season against Tufts University in the round of 32.

We recently chatted with number thirty-two to discuss what it's like to be both a part of the basketball team and a part of Hopkins.

The News-Letter (N-L): Where are you from, and why did you decide to come to Hopkins?

Chantel Mattiola (CM): I'm from Collegeville, PA, about thirty minutes outside Philly. I chose Hopkins because of its renowned academics, urban location and I was also being recruited by [head] Coach [Nancy] Funk. It was a win-win situation.

N-L: What major did you decide to pursue here?

CM: My major is Inter-



FILE PHOTO

Mattiola, a senior guard, dropped 23 this weekend.

national Relations and my minor is Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. I have always been interested in diverse cultures, along with human rights, human security and development. I truly believe the combination of my academics propelled me to pursue activism

on the topics and issues I am most passionate about.

N-L: How did you first get into basketball?

CM: I started playing when I was six years old. I don't really remember why I wanted to play, but my dad tells me that I went up to him one day and said, 'I want to play basketball.' My dad is the only guy in a house of all females, so he probably jumped on that opportunity real quick. Let's just say he has been my number one fan since then.

N-L: Do you have a favorite position or a favorite thing about basketball?

CM: I'm a point guard at heart, but I have been the shooting guard the past couple years.

N-L: Did you have any personal goals for your last season?

CM: [Seniors] Steph [Fong], Kat [Fox] and I were named captains for this season, so my number one goal, personally, was to make sure I was a respectable captain and teammate. Especially with a large freshman class; it was really important to me that everyone felt welcomed and like a part of the team.

N-L: Did you have any particular team goals for the season?

CM: Our team goals for this season were to show up every day at practice, be ready to work hard and

VITAL STATISTICS

Name: Chantel Mattiola
Year: Senior
Hometown: Trappe, PA
High School: Perkiomen Valley
Position: Shooting guard
Accomplishments: Mattiola started all 29 games for Hopkins, leading the team in scoring with 12.3 points per game. The senior capped her career with a team-high 53 three-pointers this season, and she was also second on the team in assists with 92 for the season.

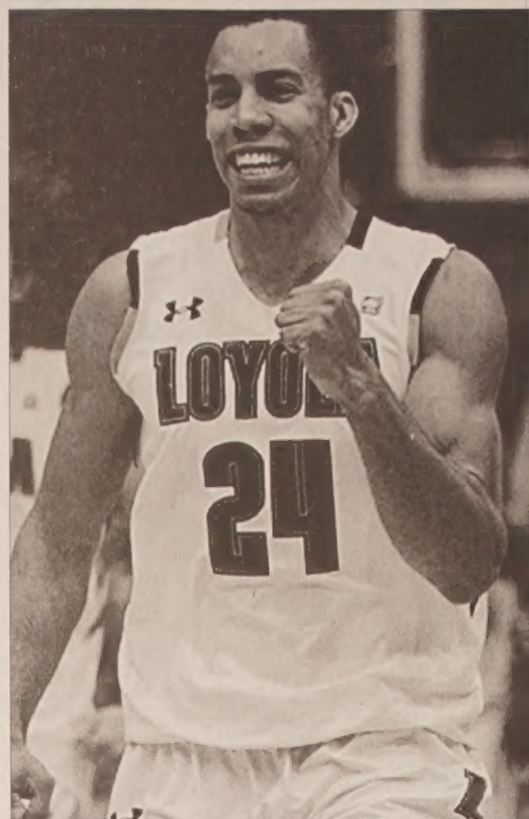
to push each other to get better. We never sat down and wrote out any specific goals for where we wanted to be at the end of the season, but just like every other team in our conference we wanted to make it to the Championship game.

I think what made us so successful this year was taking one game at a time and never looking past the opponent we had in front of us. Our season is very long, about five months, so it also helped that our team was so close and comfortable with each other.

Finishing my career with a season like this one—getting to the conference championship and the second round of NCAA's with a great group of girls and coaching staff—I couldn't have asked for anything better.

N-L: Do you hope to continue to play basketball competitively, recreationally or otherwise?

CM: I definitely think I will take a bit of a break from basketball for now, but I'm sure I will be playing in pick up games whenever I get the chance.



COURTESY OF CBSSPORTS.COM

Charles Street neighbor Loyola earned an automatic bid to The Dance.

Madness ready to launch in NCAA Tournament

Get your brackets ready!

By **SAM GLASSMAN**
Sports Editor

What do Valentine's day, Mardi Gras and March Madness all have in common?

If you said, "they're all on Tuesday," you're probably missing the point.

It's hard to explain the excitement consistently generated by each of these quasi-holidays, but it is essentially ineffectual to even try. The majority of us can already feel it.

Unfortunately, I fall into the uninformed minority. Not being an avid basketball fan, or a basketball fan at all, I struggle with picking a bracket. To put it delicately, 'I go with my gut.'

For those of you who think 'March Madness' is an allusion to mid-term week, you should stop reading here. The rest of you, I'm sure, know it begins officially on Mar. 13th, after 'Selection Sunday' on the 11th.

As of right now, there are few things set in stone, although some speculations can be made fairly accurately.

With upsets from No. 6 University of North Carolina over No. 4 Duke, No. 10 Ohio State over No. 5 Michigan State and Iowa State likely securing its first NCAA tournament berth in seven long years, we seem to be in for a good month of basketball.

Predictions have already placed Kentucky, North Carolina, Syracuse, and Kansas at No. 1 for the South, West, East and Midwest regions, respectively.

The North Carolina Tar Heels, with a lineup including big names such as John Henson, Kendall Marshall, Tyler Zeller and Harrison Barnes, and with their recent win over Duke may be a strong pick this year. They are projected to win the ACC title and expected to do very well in the NCAA tournament.

Kentucky, the current number one team in the nation, has done well this year and is also expected to win the SEC tournament, although they will face formidable opponents such as Florida and LSU.

While many people have pegged head coach John Calipari and his Kentucky program as a "one-and-done" factory, where college freshman play for a year before leaving for the NBA, this year has proven that sometimes college glory trumps NBA dollars. Sophomores Terrence

Jones and Doron Lamb returned to school in favor of entering last year's NBA Draft, and together they have given the Wildcats a formidable inside-outside punch.

Both Syracuse and Kansas, in the Big East and Big Twelve respectively, are annually formidable competitors and will be, obviously, teams to watch.

Additionally, Marquette has been a team of interest lately, winning 12 of its last 13 games in the Big East. The young team might be much more focused during the post-season—with one more year of experience under their belt.

And of course, you cannot look at the Big East without acknowledging the play of the defending national champion Connecticut Huskies. While the team has struggled after entering the season in the preseason top 5, the return of head coach Jim Calhoun after serious back surgery will surely give the team a new spark.

Despite all of these speculations, however, it is important to consider the past when deciding on a bracket.

Very few of us can claim to have predicted last year's March Madness final between Butler and University of Connecticut. It is just this type of result which can make or break a bracket, which is why sometimes hard analysis of the facts can lead someone astray.

It can sometimes be more important to consider the 'intangibles,' such as team chemistry, possible distractions or style of play—all of which I have referenced in defense of my 'gut picks.'

This year Louisville, Marquette, and Missouri all seem like good picks to me.

For those of you looking to show your bracket-picking expertise, or simply test out your gut, there are easy ways to do so.

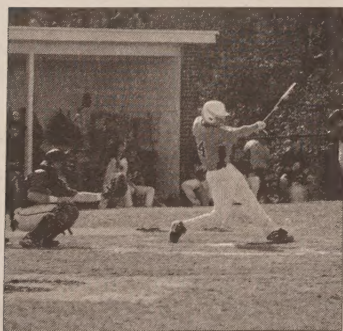
On campus, JHU Crossover Basketball, a Center for Social Concern group, is holding a bracket competition with a \$5 entry fee and some great prizes for the top three winners. The donations go directly to Barclay Elementary/Middle School and Greenmount Recreation Center.

To take part in this, simply email jhucrossoverball@gmail.com before Mar. 14th.

Baseball bested by 13th-ranked Rowan

Neverman hitting at .429 clip

BASEBALL, FROM B12
2010 NCAA Regional Tournament to advance to the World Series. Rowan was



FILE PHOTO

Hopkins is 2-2-1 through five games so far.

eager to avenge the loss.

Unfortunately for Hopkins, the Profs came out determined and scored six runs in the bottom of the seventh to break a 3-3 tie and win 9-3. Eagleson pitched six strong innings and gave up three runs on five hits to take the no-decision, while sophomore right-hander Tyler Goldstein took the loss after giving up four runs on some tough-luck, bleeder hits.

In the top of the third, senior outfielder Scott Barrett scored off of a single by Borenstein to tie the game at one. The Jays would later gain a 3-2 lead on a Barrett double to the right-centerfield gap, but Hopkins remained scoreless in the final five frames.

Hopkins baseball rebounded from the loss with an 8-5 win over York on Wednesday evening. The team opened up scoring in the first inning to

pull ahead 2-0 after Lynch fired off a single to bring in Kanen and then scored off of a Musary hit. Lynch and Kanen both had big days for the Blue Jays, with Lynch driving in four runs and Kanen scoring three times. The duo, along with Neverman, combined for nine of the team's 12 hits.

Senior right-handed pitcher Luke Henneman took the win for the Blue Jays after he pitched 3.1 innings out of the bullpen and allowed just three hits. Henneman struck out two in the process.

"It was a big team effort today," Henneman said after the game, "The hitters hit and fielded. It's easy to pitch when I know all the plays will be made behind me. [Our other pitchers] Kevin [Gillen] and Aaron [Schwartz] were dominant too."

Hopkins baseball takes the field next Friday when the team faces Stevenson College at Stevenson. Game time is set for 3 PM, and the probable starter for the Jays is Eliopolous. The six-foot-six ace has 16 strikeouts in 12.1 innings this year, but he will be searching for his first win of the 2012 season in the game.

They will then travel to Catholic University and Randolph-Macon College next week before departing for the desert.

Lady Jays face nation's best in early tournament

W. TENNIS, FROM B12
deficit, the Washington & Lee Generals ultimately prevailed 5-4 over the Blue Jays.

With the opening round loss to the Generals, the Jays next faced off against the University of Chicago in the consolation semifinals. Chicago jumped out to an early 2-1 lead with wins at first and second doubles. Hopkins freshman Elaine Baik and senior Courtney Boger tied the match at one with an 8-6 win over Chicago's Maggie Schumann and Linden Li.

But Chicago came back with another win to take the lead back to 2-1. Chicago never looked back after taking the early lead. They stayed in the lead until the end, earning a 6-3 final score over Hopkins.

After two tough losses in their first two matches, the Blue Jays sought revenge against sixth-ranked Dension University and got the much needed win. This was the highest ranked opponent that the Blue Jays had ever beaten in the program's history.



FILE PHOTO

The Lady Jays placed seventh in the competitive indoor championships.

SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

The 5-0 start by the men's lacrosse team is the best opening to a season since 2005, the same year the team went undefeated on its way to a National Championship.

CALENDAR

SATURDAY
Men's Lacrosse vs. UMBC, 4:00 PM
Game at M&T Bank Stadium

SUNDAY
Men's Tennis vs NC Wesleyan, TBA

Blue Jay bats come alive against York

By NICOLE PASSMORE
Staff Writer

The Hopkins' baseball team went 1-1 at home versus Messiah and Rutgers-Newark this weekend before kicking off three weeks on the road. The team will play five away games on the East Coast before heading to Phoenix, AZ for their spring trip. The Blue Jays went 1-1 away as well, falling to 13th-ranked Rowan in Glassboro, NJ on Tuesday before defeating York College in Pennsylvania on Wednesday.

Hopkins baseball was ranked #22 in the country in the preseason and opened their season in a challenging fashion.

"[We are] playing against tough competition in our first 10 games of the year,"

said junior first baseman Jeff Lynch. "All [the teams] except Rutgers-Newark played in the NCAA tournament in the last three seasons. It will prepare us well for conference play and hopefully the NCAA tournament."

The Blue Jays were looking for a win in their second game against the Falcons of Messiah following an exciting game versus 10th-ranked Alvernia College that was cut short at a 7-7 tie due to darkness to begin the year.

Hopkins came out strong, jumping out to a 2-0 lead only two batters into the game as junior second baseman Mike Kanen hit a two-run home run in the bottom of the first. Junior shortstop Kyle Neverman brought the Blue Jays' total number of runs up to three when he scored on a wild pitch in the bottom of the third. However, Messiah battled back with two runs of their own and only trailed 3-2 entering the fourth inning.

The Falcons then went on to score three runs in the top of the fourth and clinch the lead for good.

Junior third baseman Chris Wilhelm hit a solo home run in response to Messiah's comeback dur-

ing the bottom of the fourth and narrowed the gap to 5-4, but Messiah scored another run in the top of the eighth to solidify a 6-4 win.

It was Messiah's first win of the season and the Falcons improved to 1-3. Senior co-captain and right-handed pitcher Sam Eagleson took the loss for the Blue Jays.

After a loss and a tie, the team was more than ready for a win at home. That 'W' would come two days after the Messiah game, as Hopkins defeated Rutgers-Newark 5-4 for their first win. Another senior

co-captain and right-handed pitcher, Alex Eliopoulos, pitched seven innings, giving up just a two-out two-run double in the fourth before getting all but two batters out the remainder of the time.

However, it was yet another senior co-captain and right-handed pitcher Blake Platt, who came on in the eighth to earn the win, and senior closer Aaron Schwartz, who came in to shut the door in the ninth inning to close out the game for Hopkins and secure the Jays' first win.

Trailing 2-0, Neverman sent a ball soaring over the right-centerfield fence in the bottom of the eighth to kick off the scoring for the Blue Jays. The men kept the runs coming throughout the half-inning with Kanen, Wilhelm, junior catcher Ryan Zakszezki, junior pinch-runner Adam Weiner, junior outfielder Matt Ricci, senior outfielder Mike Musary and junior outfielder Chris Vonderschmidt all contributing to a five-run inning.

"This team has a ton of potential," said senior co-captain and catcher Aaron Borenstein. "We are starting to live up to it and are making strides toward becoming the team we all expect to be."

The team was looking to build off their win when they travelled to New Jersey to take on the Profs of Rowan College. Hopkins had defeated Rowan in the

SEE BASEBALL, PAGE B11

Men's Lacrosse shuts down Jaspers, 11-0



Hopkins' midfield impressed this weekend, scoring two-thirds of the team's goals on the road against Princeton before returning home for a bashing on Manhattan. Not to be out done, Hopkins' defense was also stellar, as the Jays recorded their first shutout since 1988. Please see Page B10 for full women's basketball coverage.

NATHALIA GIBBS/PHOTO EDITOR

W. Lacrosse splits with neighbors

By JEFF LYNCH
Staff Writer

The Hopkins women's lacrosse team entered this week's action riding a three game winning streak, breezing to wins by margins of at least ten goals in their early season contests. However, the Lady Jays ran into some stiff competition against the 11th-ranked Greyhounds of Loyola University (MD) and Stony Brook, dropping a pair of closely contested games in the friendly confines of Homewood Field. On Wednesday night, however, the Jays returned to their winning ways, knocking off their 19th-ranked neighbor in Towson.

The first game pitted Charles Street rivals Loyola and Hopkins against one another for the first time in 30 years, as the Greyhounds made the short bus trip to face off against the Lady Blue Jays.

Things got off to a strange start, as lightning strikes in the area delayed the game for more than an hour merely three minutes into the contest.

Once play resumed, the Lady Jays tallied the first goal as sophomore Taylor D'Amore scored the first of her pair of goals off a feed from senior Candace Rossi, who also netted a pair of goals to lead the team.

The Greyhounds responded quickly and with a vengeance. Loyola rattled off five straight goals to put them comfortably in front by a score of 5-1. From then on out, every time the Lady Jays attempted to build momentum and make a comeback, the Greyhounds seemed to always have an answer whether it be a big save, clear or retaliatory goal.

Bright spots for the Blue Jays were three points apiece for Rossi and D'Amore, and a career high

seven draw controls by senior Colleen McCaffrey to help Hopkins win a total of 17 of 20 draws overall.

Next up for the Lady Blue Jays was a contest against the undefeated Stony Brook women's lacrosse team, a game that went right down to the wire. The theme to this game was offense, offense and more offense as the two teams combined to score 29 goals, including 18 in the first half alone.

Rossi, the team's goal scoring leader, was once again instrumental in the Lady Jays offensive attack, as she along with junior Courtney Schweizer both notched hat tricks on the day. The contest was back and forth throughout with the Jays holding a 10-8 lead at the half.

A turning point for Hopkins to end the first frame was the play of freshman goalie KC Emerson. The Maryland native made three big saves in the final minutes of the half after relieving junior stalwart Colette Larash, who had some struggles handling the Sea Wolves' offense.

However, in the second half, Stony Brook's impressive offensive attack proved to be too much for the Lady Jay defense, as they rallied from the two goal deficit to tie the game with 4:19 to play on a goal by Stony Brook's Janine Hillier. The Sea Wolves fended off the Blue Jay final attack, and called a timeout with 2:51 remaining in the game when Rossi was sent off with a yellow card. Stony Brook then held the ball



NATHALIA GIBBS/PHOTO EDITOR
The Jays dropped a close one to Stony Brook.

moving it around the perimeter holding for the last shot until they finally got their chance with a free position shot with 11 seconds to play in regulation time.

Claire Petersen was able to net the game winning goal, and the Sea Wolves held on as the final seconds ticked away on a heart-breaking 14-15 loss for the Lady Blue Jay lacrosse faithful. All in all, several impressive individual performances were had, as Rossi totaled seven points on her hat trick and a career high four assists. D'Amore added two goals to go along with four assists as well, and Emerson totaled nine saves while picking up the loss.

Hopkins returned to the win column on Wednesday with a defense-driven 5-4 win against the Tigers of Towson. In goal again for the Jays was the young Emerson who notched six saves. On the other end, McCaffrey scored a hat trick alongside single goals from Rossi and D'Amore.

Keep your eye on *The News-Letter* for all your Lady Blue Jay lacrosse coverage this spring as they move through a schedule filled with impressive competition, in hopes of making a run towards a National Championship.

W. Tennis serves up win over Denison

By JEFF SCHILL
Staff Writer

The Hopkins women's tennis team traveled to Greencastle, IN this past weekend to compete in the ITA National Team Indoor Championship. The competing teams were Denison University, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges, Washington University, University of Chicago, Washington & Lee University, Carnegie Mellon University, DePauw University and Hopkins.

This nationwide tournament featured some of the best teams in the country, including eight of the top 16 teams in the latest Campbell/ITA Division III women's team rankings, half of which sit inside the top 10. Last year's champion, the Emory Eagles, did not get slated into the tournament, so a new champion would be crowned.

In the opening round on Friday afternoon, Hopkins drew a tough opponent, the eighth-ranked Washington & Lee Generals. Hopkins found themselves down, 4-2, but they did not give up. The Blue Jays eventually tied the match at 4-4.

This late surge was led by Hopkins sophomore Abby Clark and freshman Shannon Herndon. Clark beat Washington & Lee's Trelsie Sadler 6-4, 6-3 to win at fifth singles. Herndon then followed with a victory over Lindsey Burke in three sets, 3-6, 7-5, 7-5 at fourth singles.

Despite cutting the SEE TENNIS, PAGE B11



FILE PHOTO

Senior Alex Eliopoulos is the reigning conference pitcher of the year.

Men's Lacrosse: Win Streak Continues

The second-ranked Blue Jays improved their record to a sterling 5-0 this week. Hopkins bested the 12th-ranked Tigers of Princeton, 10-8, as well as the Jaspers of Manhattan, 11-0. **Page B10**

Athlete of the Week: Chantel Mattiola

Senior guard Chantel Mattiola led Hopkins to the second round of the NCAA Tournament, scoring 10 points in their win against the University of New England. **Page B11**

March Madness: Basketball heats up

Selection Sunday is just days away and Sam Glassman gets sports fans prepared for what should be yet another wildly entertaining college basketball finale in 2012. **Page B10**

INSIDE

INSIDE